



## INTERNATIONAL

**Rajiv's attacker released from jail**

COLOMBO, April 3. (AP): A young Sinhalese sailor who clubbed India's then-prime minister Rajiv Gandhi with his rifle butt was among 700 prisoners released under a special pardon, a prison official said.

Vijitha Rohana was a member of a navy honour guard when he attacked Rajiv in 1987. The Indian leader had gone to Colombo to sign a peace pact designed to end a revolt by Tamil guerrillas. The rifle butt struck Rajiv's shoulder.

Rohana, 24, was sentenced to six years in prison in the attack.

The incident shocked both the Indian and Sri Lankan governments and was widely regarded as an expression of Sinhalese anger at the Indian-sponsored attempts to give a measure of autonomy to the Tamil minority.

Within weeks of the signing of the peace accord, Sinhalese extremists began assassinating Sri Lankan government officials and supporters.

Rohana was exonerated of a charge of attempted murder after his lawyers claimed that he would have used his bayonet instead of the rifle butt if he had really wanted to kill Rajiv.

The list of those freed from Sri Lanka's overcrowded prisons was drawn up last week by Justice Minister Shahul Hameed.

Prisons throughout the island are jammed because of the ethnic and political violence that has gripped the country since the Tamil revolt began in 1983.

More than 11,000 people died in the Tamil uprising, including 1,155 members of the Indian peacekeeping force that was withdrawn on March 24.

At least 6,000 more people died in the struggle between ultra-nationalist Sinhalese and the Sinhalese-controlled government.

■ A week after the last of the Indian soldiers left north-eastern Sri Lanka, this northern town is in threshold of witnessing another power, but more popular, taking over control of its people.

**UK plans to cut numbers, modernise armed forces**

LONDON, April 3. (Reuter): Britain unveiled plans yesterday to streamline and modernise its armed forces, but ruled out major defence cuts during what it called the uncertainties of political change in Eastern Europe.

Presenting draft legislation for 1990, Defence Secretary Tom King said "exciting developments" in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union "bringing into question a number of the bases on which our defences in the past have

been structured."

He told a news conference that while Britain looked forward to a successful conclusion of conventional arms control talks between Nato and the Warsaw Pact in Vienna, its approach to arms reduction would remain cautious.

"Our job in defence is not to take risks ... but to ensure that we still have the defences that we might need if things turn out worse than we hoped."

King stressed the armed forces might

become smaller "but still very substantial" with any cuts contingent on the outcome of the changes in the Warsaw Pact countries.

The draft repeated Britain's adherence to an independent strategic deterrent but left open the possibility for the first time of including this in the Strategic Arms Reduction talks (Start) negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States if substantial cuts were agreed.

Even the successful conclusion on a Start treaty would not remove the need for Britain to replace its ageing Polaris missiles with the more potent Trident system in the mid-1990s, it added.

On conventional arms cuts, King ruled out a withdrawal of British forces in West Germany in response to Soviet troop cuts in East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, citing Soviet troop superiority and the imbalance of naval forces in its favour.

The draft law forecast defence spending of £21.22 billion (\$34.6 billion) this year, up five per cent over last year's figure, with naval spending set to rise for the first time in four years.

Defence spending for forces on Europe's central front will fall to £4.135 billion (\$6.7 billion) from £4.349 billion (\$7.1 billion). Naval spending will rise to £2.67 billion (\$4.4 billion) from £2.59 billion (\$4.2 billion).

The statement also expressed concern over the spread of ballistic missiles and chemical and biological warfare technology, particularly in the Middle East.

It mentioned Libya, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria, Israel, and Iran in the Middle East as well as China, India, Afghanistan and Pakistan as countries "we believe to have or are developing ballistic missile capability."

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

**WHO study on smoking:** An estimated 500 million people will die from smoking in the next 25 years, according to a World Health Organisation study released in Perth, Australia, yesterday.

WHO statistician Dr Alan Lopez and Richard Peto, an epidemiologist at Britain's Oxford University, said their study indicated smoking would be the number one cause of death in the world by the turn of the century.

"Today there will be 8,000 deaths a day from smoking, but when the kids reach middle-age there will be something like 28,000 deaths a day," Peto told reporters at the world conference on tobacco and health.

If present patterns continued, 200 million people under the age of 20 and 300 million adults will die of smoking by 2015, Peto said.

**Security Council veto powers:** UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said in an interview published today he was opposed to an extension of Security Council veto power to Japan and a unified Germany.

"There are people who say that the right of the veto (exercised by the present five permanent members) is unjust," Perez de Cuellar told the Paris daily *Le Figaro*. "So why should it be necessary to increase the number of countries that exercise it?"

He added: "We already have enough problems dealing with five. It will be much more difficult coping with seven. In any case that will open the door. The Latin Americans will say why not us. And the Africans too."

"The veto power should not be enlarged. (It would be) better to restrict it," (Reuter)

**15 killed in Taiwan fire:** Fire swept through a building housing a barbershop and apartments in the Taiwanese northern city of Taoyuan early today, killing 15 people and injuring eight others, police reported.

Police in Taoyuan, about 50 kms (31 miles) west of Taipei, said the charred bodies of six people were found in the barbershop, which occupied the second and third floors of a seven-story building. Nine more bodies were found in apartments on the fourth and fifth floors, they said.

Five people were hospitalised with burns, while three others suffered minor injuries, police said. Firemen said the injured people included a clerk in the barbershop and several apartment residents. (AP)

**Democratic nations to meet:** Pakistan government will convene a conference of the Association of Democratic Nations in Islamabad by the end



A woman leaps onto the curb on the way to her car on Monday during the heavier part of a rare Jerusalem snowfall. The last time it snowed in occupied Jerusalem was in 1949 and before that in 1820. The centimetre of snow that fell in an hour melted quickly. (Reuter wirephoto)

of the current year or early next year, federal Minister of Law and Justice Iftekhar Hussain Gilani said.

In an interview with official news agency APP he said though the conference would be held at foreign ministers' level, some heads of democratic countries would also be invited to attend. (Kuna)

**India to increase food production:** India is expected to achieve record food production of 174 million tonnes in 1989-90.

The production, which was around 50 million tonnes in 1980, touched 172 million tonnes in 1988-89. By the turn of this century, the country will have to meet the daunting task of raising the production of foodgrains to the level of 250 million tonnes to feed one billion mouths.

**6 killed, 27 hurt in Nepal violence**

## 6 killed, 27 hurt in Nepal violence

KATHMANDU, April 3. (UPI): Pro-democracy demonstrators set fire to a bulldozer carrying police trying to enter a suburb today where protesters have trapped hundreds of officers.

Also today, medical sources reported at least six people were killed and 27 wounded yesterday in battles between protesters and authorities in the Himalayan kingdom, which has been subjected to six weeks of protest of Nepal's partyless system of government.

Doctors at teaching hospital, a hotbed of opposition activity, were refusing to hand over to police the bodies of demonstrators killed during protests. The doctors laid down in front of police vans as they tried to enter the hospital and said the bodies would be handed over only to relatives.

"Kathmandu, studded with pagoda-style temples, this morning looked like a battle-scarred city as police moved out again to quell demonstrations. The streets were littered with stones and still in place were the roadblocks erected by residents to prevent police vehicles from entering the town.

A mile (1.5km) outside the capital, protesters set fire to a bulldozer carrying police attempting to enter the barricaded suburb of Patan to free some 350 officers trapped in the city centre by demonstrators, residents reported. There was no immediate word on casualties.

Last night, demonstrators, many of them armed with sickles, hoes and home-made weapons, rampaged through the ancient streets of Kathmandu, which were plunged into darkness by a lights-out protest organised by the opposition.

Residents of the capital said police and groups of armed demonstrators fought much of the night in the streets, with officers opening fire on the protesters and using tear-gas in an attempt to disperse the crowds. Hospitals and residents in Kathmandu reported at least six people were killed and 15 others were wounded during violence in or near the capital last night.

Witnesses said three people died and six were seriously wounded yesterday in the town of Kirtipur, 3 miles (5 km) west of Kathmandu, when police fired on demonstrators. The government said officers opened fire after a 600-strong mob tried to set fire to a police post.

An anti-government demonstration of about 75,000 people tried to March to the capital yesterday but was stopped without violence by police at a bridge. At least 22 people have been confirmed killed by police in the six weeks of demonstrations and thousands have been arrested in the struggle by banned political parties to force King Birendra to end Nepal's royal-dominated system of panchayats or elected councils, and return to a multi-party system.

In 1979, when the king was confronted by similar student-led demonstrations, he called a referendum, giving his subjects an option to maintain the panchayat with reforms or reintroduce multi-party system, banned 29 years ago.

The king reportedly again was trying to introduce reforms to the panchayat system to quell the crisis but the opposition has stood firm in its demand for a multi-party system.

The unrest has forced the government to close nearly all schools and campuses in the Kathmandu valley, which have been centres of the protest movement.

Residents of the capital reported police fled from many parts of the city last night after running out of tear-gas shells, which were used to disperse riot mobs.

Demonstrators shouting, "we want democracy" and "down with the panchayat system" went on a rampage throughout the city last night, stoning houses of prominent pro-government politicians and the office of the Kathmandu mayor.

## Deal under way at Strangeways

### 35 surrender, 64 still holding out

MANCHESTER, April 3. (AP): Thirty-five inmates who had rioted at Strangeways prison surrendered this morning, and the government said negotiations were underway with 64 holdouts to end the three-day siege. At another facility, Long Lartin prison, 33 inmates who had barricaded a landing overnight after guards thwarted an attempted breakout ended their protest peacefully this morning, the Home Office said. No injuries to staff or inmates were reported at the prison, which is 100 miles (160 kilometres) south of Manchester.

"There are now 64 inmates left within Manchester prison," a Home Office spokeswoman said today. "Those who surrendered, she said, "came out voluntarily."



Strangeways rioting prisoners shown demonstrating on the roof. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Task force to probe into riot

### Poll tax protest

LONDON, April 3. (UPI): The government set up a 100-member police task force to investigate a weekend anti-tax riot in which scores were hurt and hundreds of stores and cars were damaged.

Home Secretary David Waddington told Parliament yesterday that about 3,000 "troublemakers ... bent on violence" were among the tens of thousands of protesters who marched through London on Saturday to protest Britain's new poll tax.

Rioting broke out after the end of the peaceful demonstration, attended by 40,000 according to police and 150,000 according to organisers.

Mobs rampaged through central London for several hours, battering police, setting fires, breaking windows, looting stores and overturning cars.

The government said 374 police officers were wounded, with 58 requiring hospital treatment, and 86 civilians were hurt. There were 250 reports of damage to property.

The new community poll tax went into effect on Sunday in England and Wales, one year after it was imposed in Scotland. The tax requires local city councils to set a flat sum that must be paid by every resident at least 18 years old, with some exceptions.

There have been other riots in previous weeks as local councils set tax rates.

Unlike income tax, or the property tax it replaces, the poll tax does not discriminate according to wealth, which has caused bitter complaints that the richest man in England, the Duke of Westminster, pays the same amount as one of his servants.

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LAUNCH IT!

## Bejart plans Oriental ballet

CAIRO, April 3. (Reuters): With the pyramids as a backdrop and dance inspired by Islamic music, French choreographer Maurice Bejart is to stage a new ballet in Egypt next month.

Unveiling plans at a news conference yesterday, Bejart, who converted to Islam six years ago, said the ballet will be based on Islamic music from the Arab world, Iran, India and Pakistan.

Bejart, one of the world's best-known choreographers and current director of the "Bejart Ballet Lausanne" in Switzerland, has a reputation for staging ballets across the world, drawing inspiration from the local culture.

Based in Brussels until three years ago, he has staged performances in Japan, in the ancient capital city of Persepolis and in Baalbek in Lebanon.

### Learn

"What I have been trying in 25 years of work is to go round the world performing. Europe is now a very small part of the world and we have to learn about other countries," he said.

His latest ballet, "Pyramide," will follow famous characters connected with Egypt from ancient times to modern days — the pharaohs, Dhul Nun, a Sufi mystic of the middle ages, Alexander the Great, Napoleon Bonaparte and Egyptian singer Om Kalthoum.

"I was interested by lots of characters who went through Egypt," said Bejart. "Through this character (Dhul Nun)... I had something to help me to put everything together and who becomes the soul of the performance."

The ballet, due to have its premiere on May 25, will be performed by the 60-strong ballet Lausanne, and based on Bejart's own style rather than imitating oriental dance.

"I think it's every bad to do false folkloric. You must have a style and you try to understand the soul of the country by your style and not try to imitate from outside," he said.

### Desert

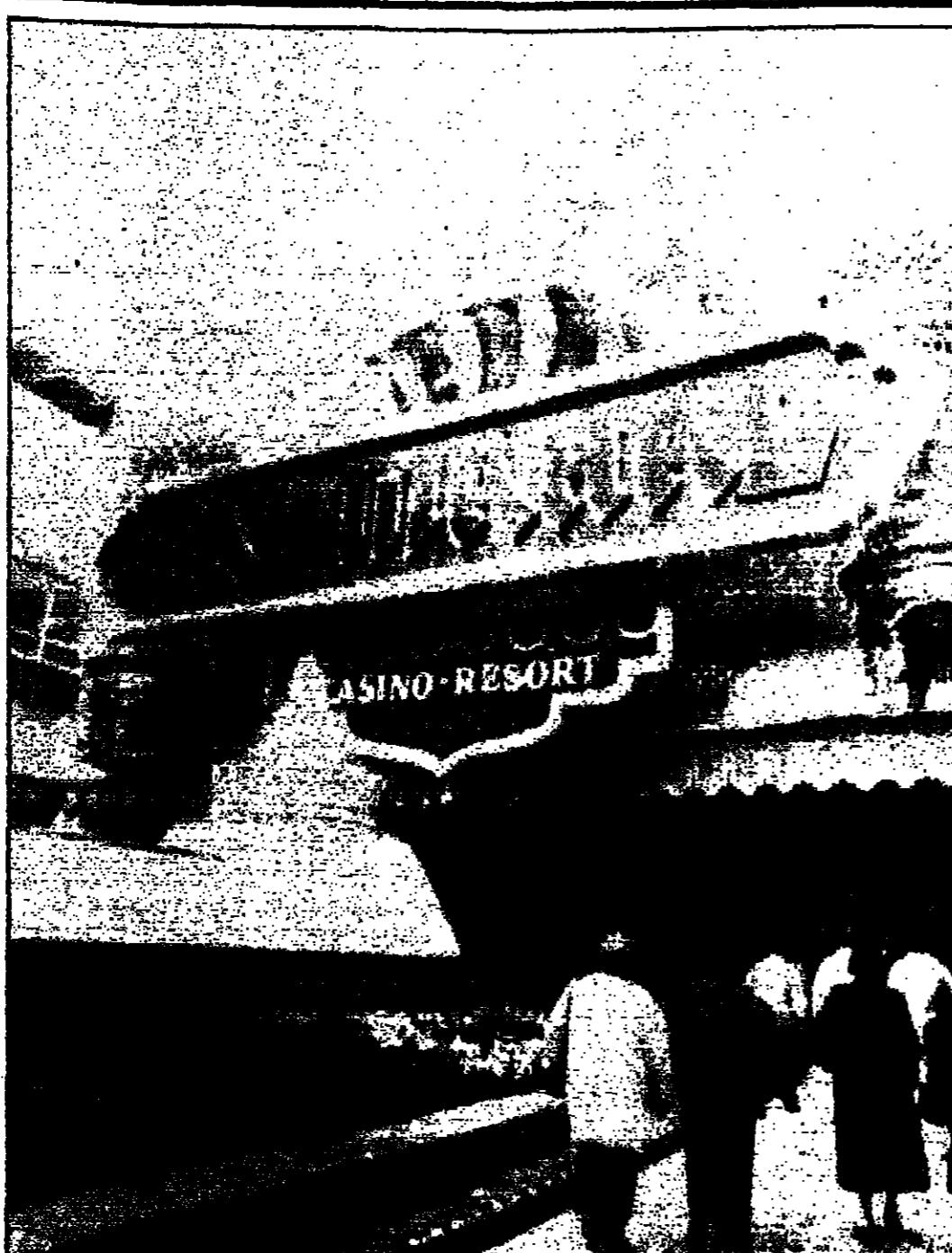
At a cost of some \$200,000, a stage is to be built out in the desert with no other backdrop but the pyramids.

Egyptian authorities are already promising a gala dinner with international celebrities at the premiere and tourist companies are offering a night at the ballet as part of a package tour. The ballet will run from May 17 to May 25.

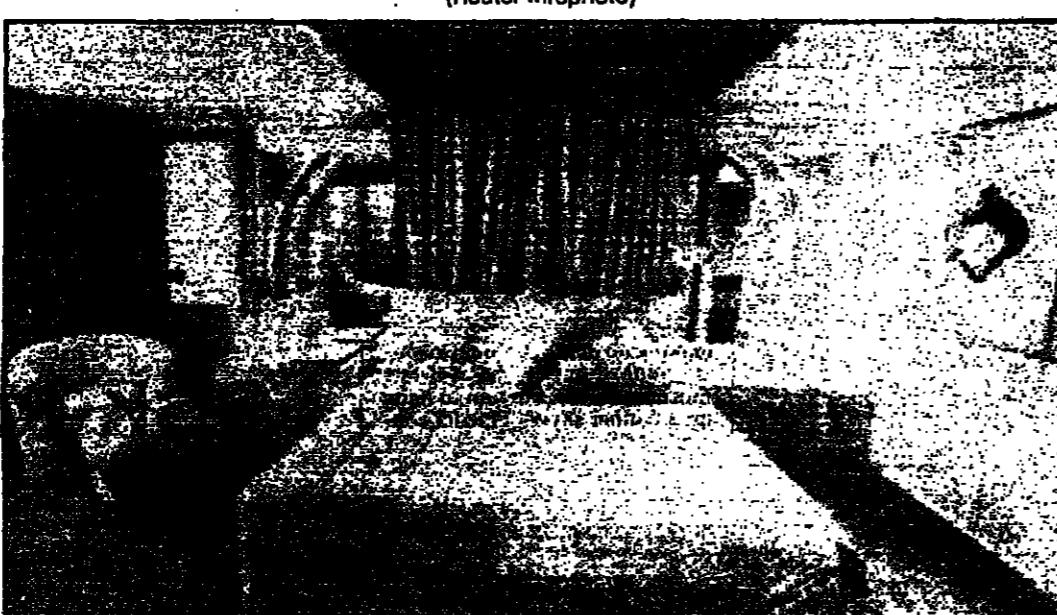
Bejart, however, says this ballet is for Egyptians.

"My wish is to give this performance to the Egyptian people and that it could be seen by different levels of society. I have no wish to come here if it is to play only for tourists," he told the news conference.

Tickets start at 20 Egyptian pounds (eight dollars) for students rising to 200 Egyptian pounds (\$80).



First day gamblers enter the Taj Mahal casino, on Monday. It is Donald Trump's third casino in Atlantic City. Trump boasts the largest casino in the world waits for its full operating licence expected on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)



The Raja suite at the new Taj Mahal casino, Donald Trump's billion dollar gamble, sports an Indian motif featuring replicas of elephant tusks and a \$600 per night price tag. The casino, which is the size of two American football fields, is the biggest and best gambling den in the world, Trump said. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Trump's new casino opens with fanfare and full house

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, April 3. (UPI): Gawkers and gamblers got a preview of billionaire Donald Trump's immense new \$1 billion casino yesterday one of the few

new slot machines in the world. The new

casino resort beginning at 10 am when the doors were flung open for the first time.

By noon, the 120,000-square-foot

(11,750-sq-m) casino floor — the largest in

the world — was packed and no slot

machines were available.

The slots accepted real coins, but gam-

blers had to use play money at the craps

tables and blackjack and baccarat games during a state-required period of test gaming.

"I'm really happy," said billionaire Trump, who wove his way through the casino several times, accepting congratulations, signing autographs and stopping occasionally to chat with a scurrying cocktail waitress.

"I cannot believe the kind of crowd we have," said Trump, who also owns the Trump Plaza and Trump Castle Casinos in Atlantic City. "It's Monday morning and it's raining and I don't think there is an empty machine to be had."

During the test period, gaming regulators will review the Taj's operations to determine if casino personnel are capable of handling real money according to proper procedure.

A decision was expected late last night as to whether the test period would continue or if low-limit betting or full play would be allowed today. Taj officials hope to get their final regulatory approvals by Thursday, when the casino is planning an official opening celebration.

Thursday's bash originally was to include an appearance by Marla Maples, reportedly the "other woman" in Trump's mega-dollar divorce battle with his Czech-born wife,

Ivana. After originally inviting Maples, Trump later withdrew the invitation.

The Taj, which features 70 colourful minarets, spires and onion domes and \$14 million worth of chandeliers, has 12 restaurants and at 42 stories is New Jersey's tallest building.

"I think it's fantastic," Angelina Wescott of Camden, who played hooky from her job to attend the Taj opening. "It's beautiful. That guy must have spent a fortune on this place."

Trump floated \$675 million in junk bonds

to build the extravagant boardwalk casino

and must come up with \$94 million a year to

pay the debt service.

Industry analysts have said Trump will have to raise in more than \$1 million a day from gamblers to make the 1,250-room casino hotel a success.

Anthony Parillo, director of the New Jersey division of gaming enforcement, said by noon yesterday there had been no major glitches in the test gaming.

"There is one huge crowd here," said Parillo as he surveyed the crowded gaming floor. "It's putting a strain on the system, but I think they are going to come through it very well."

The long-anticipated opening attracted a

Trump rival, Jack Gallaway, president of Tropworld Casino and Entertainment Resort, which until the Taj boasted the largest casino floor in town, said he had stopped in to take a look.

"It's a beautiful casino," Gallaway said. "With him luck, a large casino floor is a big advantage, especially on the weekends when the city is straining at the seams. But when it's empty, it's really empty."

Gallaway predicted that after a "year's shakedown," during which the Taj might lure away business from his 11 competitors, business at all the casinos would return to normal.

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## INTERNATIONAL

## World News Roundup



Donald Trump's wife

Ivana Trump, estranged wife of billionaire developer Donald Trump, attends the *Caroline Herrera* fall fashion show at the Plaza Hotel in New York on Monday. Donald Trump is to open the Taj Mahal casino in Atlanta City on April 5. (Reuter wirephoto)



White dying

Ryan White (shown right), whose battle with AIDS brought him scorn in his hometown but support from across the world, was hospitalised with internal bleeding Monday and was not expected to live, authorities said.

Doctors said Monday afternoon that White, now 18, probably would not survive the day, said Carrie Van Dyke, director of health promotion for the State Board of Health.

Van Dyke said White's mother, Jeanne, and his sister, Andrea, were among the relatives at his bedside.

White's hemophilia, the disorder that initially exposed him to the deadly AIDS virus, prevented doctors from operating, said Van Dyke. She said she was told about White's condition by his mother at lunchtime.

"This is it. He's not expected to come out of it," Van Dyke said. "He's not responding."

Van Dyke voiced a small hope White would recover, saying, "he's surprised us before." (Reuter wirephoto)

## Sweeps box office

## Turtlemania

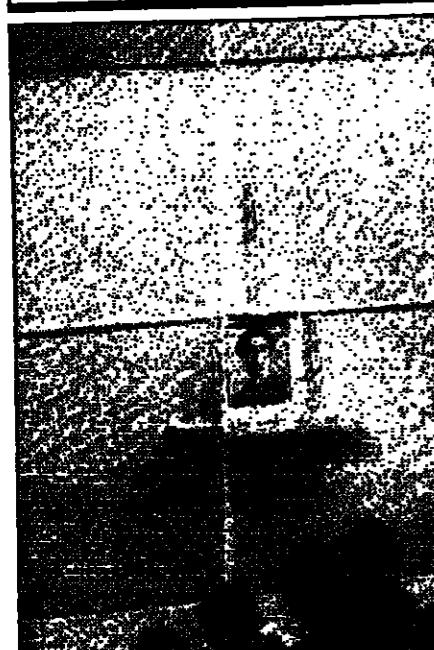
HOLLYWOOD, April 3. (AP): "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles," the motion picture saga about pizza-eating, sewer-dwelling heroes on the half-shell, snapped up record green with an estimated \$25-million weekend box office.

Turtlemania swept the box office tally with the radioactive reptiles surpassing "The Hunt for Red October" by 50 percent for the biggest non-summer, non-Thanksgiving weekend opening in movie history, according to figures released yesterday by Exhibitor Relations Co.

The box-office bonanza was even more remarkable because more than half of those buying tickets were youngsters paying an average \$2.50 to \$3 per ticket, compared to the \$5.50 to \$6.50 for adults. New Line Cinema said.

The live-action film follows the adventures of the giant turtles, former aquarium pets who mutated when exposed to radioactive sewer waste. It is playing on 1,956 screens.

In second place on the box-office charts according to early estimates was "Pretty Woman," starring Richard Gere and Julia Roberts. The film grossed \$13.1 million.



Degas painting

A painting by Degas entitled 'Degas en Gilet Vert,' a self-portrait, sold at Christie's auction in London on Monday for £1.7 million. (Reuter wirephoto)

## America

**Police love triangle:** An auxiliary policewoman who dated a city policeman for more than 20 years broke down his door and shot him three times in a jealous rage Monday as another auxiliary policewoman cowered in the apartment, police officials and sources said.

Elaine Hall, 44, a clerk at the 19th Precinct in Manhattan and an auxiliary police officer at the 44th Precinct in the Bronx, was charged with attempted murder in the shooting of officer Thomas Parker, said police spokesman Sgt Nick Vreeland.

Parker, 46, a 17-year veteran of the force, was in stable condition following surgery at Jacobi Hospital, the spokesman said.

The motive for the shooting was believed to be a love triangle, said another police spokeswoman, Sgt. Wrensen. (AP)

**Atwater to undergo radiation:** Republican Party chairman Lee Atwater entered a New York hospital Monday for intense radiation treatment of a type of brain tumour that experts say is persistent and dangerous.

Mary Matalin, chief of staff for the Republican National Committee, said in a statement that doctors had determined Atwater has an astrocytoma, a type of tumour that has "the potential to be aggressive."

The tumour was diagnosed last month after Atwater collapsed during a speech. (AP)

**Court to decide punitive damages:** The Supreme Court in Washington on Monday agreed to decide whether huge punitive damage awards in lawsuits may violate constitutional guarantees of fundamental fairness.

The court said it will consider overturning a \$1 million award and three smaller awards to Alabama residents who successfully sued an insurance company for fraud.

The case, of enormous importance to American business, is likely to be decided in 1991. (AP)

**Killed with love in his heart:** John E. List killed his wife, three children and mother in 1971 "with love in his heart" to save their souls, his attorney argued Monday at the start of the former Sunday school teacher's murder trial.

List, a strictly raised Lutheran, was a "fragmented" product of 19th century ethics who despised while his family loosened church ties and felt himself failing as a provider, said defence lawyer Elijah L. Miller Jr.

"He was simply not equipped to cope, to deal with the pressure of our times," said Miller.

Arrested in Virginia in June, List is charged with first-degree murder in the deaths of his wife, mother, daughter and two sons at his Westfield mansion Nov. 9, 1971. (AP)

**Dies before mom can repay him:** A man who donated one of his kidneys seven years ago to save his mother's life died hours before she could pay him back Monday with a bone marrow transplant in Chicago.

Hillary Mitchell, 37, who had been unable to work as a truck driver since contracting leukaemia, was scheduled to receive the bone marrow from his mother, Ernestine, 56.

But Mitchell was unable to hang on for the potentially life-saving procedure. He died at 11:25 pm (0325 GMT) Sunday, said nursing co-ordinator Ann Jagliel of the University of Chicago hospitals. (AP)

**More women opting for sterilisation:** Nearly one in every six American women in the normal childbearing age group has been surgically sterilised as a method of birth control, a government report said in Washington.

The results of the National Centre for Health Statistics Study indicates that nearly as many women 15 to 44 opt for sterilisation as choose to use the birth control pill. Figures on abortion were not included.

The study, which provides the most recent contraceptive data available, found that 16.6 per cent of those women interviewed had been sterilised, while 18.5 per cent used the pill. (AP)

**Bradley seeks re-election:** Sen. Bill Bradley has announced that he will seek re-election, quashing speculation about a 1992 presidential bid by saying he planned to represent New Jersey for the full six-year term.

A poll of Democratic state chairmen from throughout the nation recently put Bradley, 46, at the top of their list for the presidential nomination in 1992. Bradley, however, said Monday he wants to make his contribution representing New Jersey.

Bradley, a Rhodes scholar from Denveille who played basketball for Princeton University and the New York Knicks, is seen as one non-draiser who would be acceptable in more conservative regions. (AP)

**Cholesterol relief:** Cholesterol-obsessed people may now find at least partial relief, with researchers Monday reporting that chickens given a prescription drug lay eggs with less harmful cholesterol.

The drug, lovastatin (normally used in people to lower their cholesterol levels and so reduce heart attack risks) lowered the amounts of the fatty stuff on average from 213 milligrams per egg to 168. Purue University scientists reported.

The greatest reductions in cholesterol were recorded among hens given the highest doses of lovastatin over the nine-day test period. (Kuna)

**Stop glorifying alcohol:** Congress may ban broadcast advertising of beer and wine if the broadcast industry doesn't stop glorifying alcohol on its own, six congressmen warned at the industry's annual convention.

"We're not after you all on this alcohol thing. We're just putting you on notice," said Oklahoma Congressman Michael Synar, one of six lawmakers who participated in a panel discussion at the National Association of Broadcasters Convention on Sunday.

The lawmakers stressed that alcohol is a drug, and warned that alcohol advertisements are not protected by the US constitution protecting free speech. (AP)

**Dynamite found buried in backyard:** Two women unearthed more than 60 sticks of old dynamite in their back yard and police evacuated a two-block area for several hours until the bomb squad could remove the highly unstable explosive in San Francisco.

The dynamite, discovered by Melinda Costello about 1:30 pm Sunday, was in a rusted metal chest and had no identifying marks. Police said it was not immediately apparent how long it had been buried.

Costello, who has lived in the house for more than five years, said the dynamite was in a plastic bag and was wet on top. She said she unwrapped one of the sticks and found the crystallized substance inside. (AP)

**Kilauea threatens community:** Lava from Kilauea volcano is threatening a subdivision of 83 homes in the coastal town of Kalapana, and authorities ordered most of the residents to evacuate. The slow-moving flow was half a mile (a kilometre) from Kalapana gardens subdivision on Monday morning. A lava flow in 1986 destroyed dozens of homes in the same area.

Hawaii county civil defence administrator Harry Kim ordered residents in 50 of the houses to evacuate by nightfall and placed the town on alert, meaning residents in about 150 homes could be ordered to evacuate within 72 hours. (AP)



Argentines mark the eighth anniversary of the Argentine invasion of British-ruled Falkland Islands on Monday in Buenos Aires. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Falkland

## Argentines claim

**Buenos Aires:** April 3. (Reuter): Argentines still want the Falkland Islands, eight years after they fought and lost a war with Britain over the south Atlantic territory, but they are willing to recover the islands through peaceful means.

Speaking on the eighth anniversary of the April 2, 1982 Argentine invasion of the Falklands, Defence Minister Humberto Romero said yesterday that the government of President Carlos Menem wanted to resolve the dispute peacefully. "More has been accomplished through peaceful methods than was achieved with forceful actions," he said at a memorial service for the 1,000 servicemen killed in the 10-week war.

Army Chief of Staff General Martin Bonnet also made a speech marking the anniversary of the invasion of the British-ruled islands, which Argentines know as the Malvinas.

On April 2, 1982, the sovereignty claim over the Malvinas islands, carried out through peaceful methods for many years, took a military form to produce something really beyond our understanding," he said.

Argentina and Britain restored full diplomatic relations in February after a speedy fence-mending campaign launched by Menem shortly after he took office in July.

All restrictions between the two countries on commerce, finance and transportation were lifted in October, a move that Menem's government hopes will help Argentina's foreign trade.



President George Bush addresses broadcasters at the Georgia World Congress Centre in Atlanta on Monday during the National Association of Broadcasters' annual convention. The President asked the broadcasters to support TV Marti. (Reuter wirephoto)

## TV Marti signals

## Electronic war

**BARACOA, Cuba, April 3. (AP):** For the past several months, a squad of Cuban military pilots have been on 24-hour alert for the attack of an invisible enemy. Last week, the first assault came.

The United States started sending TV Marti signals toward Cuba. The signal has carried mostly replays of old sports events and comedy shows, but the Cuban government regards it as a deadly serious offensive.

"This is a war; they have begun it," said Lt Col Thais Martinez, gesturing toward the United States as he spoke yesterday to foreign journalists at Baracoa air base here, a half-hour drive from Havana.

About 40 yards (metres) away stood two Soviet-made helicopters, key elements in the anti-TV Marti defence system.

The helicopters take off as soon as TV Marti begins to penetrate Cuban air space. Apparently with the help of on-board transmitters, the choppers are able to interfere with the signal.

Martinez is pleased with the results.

"Everything has been covered," he said, confirming that TV Marti's signal has been almost completely unable to reach Cuban TV sets for more than a few minutes.

The work of the helicopters is supplemented by two tall TV antennas in Havana, also with jamming capability.

## Kenyan dissident vanishes

A prominent Kenyan dissident, Mukuru Ng'ang'a, vanished from his home last week and has been missing for four days, his wife said Monday, adding she feared for his safety at the hands of President Daniel arap Moi's security forces.

She appealed to the public for help in tracing her husband, saying she feared he would be detained without trial by Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi's security forces for the third time in eight years.

"He was absolutely sure that it was merely a matter of time before they came back for him," Lucy Mukuru Ng'ang'a said in a statement issued through her lawyers. (UPI)

**Information minister sacked:** Minister of Information and Broadcasting Warumi Kanja lost his job Monday, two weeks after he started a row over the violent death of Kenya's Foreign Minister, Robert Ouko.

Official Voice of Kenya radio announced Kanja's dismissal, but gave no reasons for it.

Kanja, in his 60s, caused uproar at the opening of parliament two weeks ago, when he used a debate to compare Ouko's death to a famous case of political assassination from 1975. (UPI)

**Prince Aya to visit Kenya:** Prince Aya, the second son of Japan's Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, will make a two-week tour of Kenya and Madagascar this month to conduct research on zoology, the Imperial Household Agency announced Tuesday.

The agency said Aya, who now studies at Oxford University, will leave London April 10 for a five-day tour of Kenya.

The prince will visit the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, the Kenyan national museum and other places of interest, the agency said. (UPI)

**African leaders greedy, corrupt:** Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni said on Monday many other African leaders were greedy, corrupt, hypocritical and were turning their backs on the poor.

"Hypocrisy, abuse of power and office and greed for wealth by the leaders have become the order of the day," Museveni said in a speech at the start of a conference in Kampala on the role of the ombudsman in Africa.

"It is the duty of the African leadership to show a common social concern for the poor majority whom they lead," he said in the speech, which was read for him.

Ombudsmen are special government investigators charged with defending individual citizens from abuse by officials. (UPI)

## Renamo rebels welcome peace talks

The rebels of the Mozambican National Resistance on Monday welcomed a government offer for immediate talks and reaffirmed they were ready to start negotiations "at all levels," the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

According to Lusa, monitored in Lisbon, Faustino Mateus, chief rebel leader in Nairobi, Kenya, said the peace process was no longer blocked by questions of principle.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano said Saturday in an interview with Portuguese state television that contacts were being made with the rebels, who are also known by their Portuguese acronym Renamo, to set a venue and date for first direct peace talks to end the Southern African nation's 13-year civil war. (UPI)

**Angola cholera toll, 60:** Cholera has killed 60 people in the southern Angolan province of Namibe since the beginning of the year, Angola's news agency Angop reported Monday.

According to the Angop report monitored in Lisbon, 1,200 cases of cholera were registered in the mainly desert province bordering on Namibia.

The chief cause of the epidemic were poor sanitary and garbage disposal facilities in the provincial capital, also called Namibe, Angop said. (UPI)

## Contras to disarm

Contra rebels living in Honduran camps will formally hand in their weapons on April 18, a week before President-elect Violeta Chamorro takes office in Nicaragua, a Contra spokesman said Monday.

Contra spokesman Alfonso Acevedo released a statement in Tegucigalpa saying the demobilization "will proceed next April 18 with the formal handing over of weapons in Yahlenas." Contra leaders agreed March 23 to demobilize over their forces.

Acevedo said the Contra fighters would hand over Soviet-made AK-47 rifles, 60 mm machine guns, 60-82 and 82-mm mortars and RPG-2 and RPG-2 grenade launchers.

Acevedo said the Contras will demand a simultaneous ceasefire or the partial withdrawal of Nicaragua's popular Sandinista Army, verified by observers from the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

In the picture, a nineteen year old Contra combatant and her six month old baby start the long trek home to Nicaragua. (Reuter wirephoto)



## US invasion was bloodier

## Noriega defence claims

**MIAMI, April 3. (AP):** Manuel Antonio Noriega's defence put a former US Attorney General on the witness stand yesterday and claimed the invasion of Panama was bloodier and more destructive than the government has admitted.

Following the court hearing, Noriega reportedly told two representatives of a private group he negotiated with the US government up until the invasion.

Noriega claimed Washington was willing to drop the drug charges against him, but unleashed its military might after he refused to allow Panamanian bases to be used as staging grounds for military intervention in Nicaragua, the representatives said.

During the court hearing, the testimony, which included videotapes of the invasion and the arrest of the deposed Panamanian leader, was aimed at convincing US district judge William Hoeveler that Noriega should be freed to demonstrate that the government's executive branch is subject to the rule of law.

"Nothing General Noriega is accused of is equivalent to what happened, to the force that was used to bring him to the United States," Defence Attorney Jon May said. "We have to recognize that the methods we use sometimes make us worse than the people we are trying to arrest."

# Lee meets DPP chief

TAIPEI April 3, (UPI): President Lee Teng-Hui yesterday met for the first time with the chairman of Taiwan's main opposition party in a crucial step toward resolving growing unrest over the pace of political reform. Officials of the ruling Kuomintang (KMT), which President Lee heads, and the opposition Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) described the meeting to discuss an upcoming national affairs conference on political reform as "quite satisfactory."

It was the first time that the head of the KMT has met with the opposition party, which was established in September 1986 and has 20,000 members and many more supporters.

President Lee set a timetable of two years to resolve Taiwan's problems after he is sworn in to his first full six-year term on May 20. Tsiang Yien-Si, organizer of the upcoming conference, said:

"President Lee stressed that the most important thing is political stability," Tsiang said in a press conference. "Then we can deal with the issues step by step. President Lee believes this can be accomplished within two years."

DPP chairman Huang Hsin-Chieh presented to the President a list of four demands, including setting a timetable for reform and an amnesty for political prisoners.

He was unavailable for comment immediately after the meeting, but his secretary-general Chang Chun-Hong said the DPP was "quite satisfied with President Lee's responses to their demands."

President Lee announced a national affairs conference and invited the DPP to sit down for talks after criticism against the government's slow pace of reforms swelled in the run-up to presidential elections March 21-22.

College students and workers joined the opposition to call for an overhaul of the national assembly. Taiwan's electoral college which is dominated by mainland China-elected deputies in power for the last 40 years, and the abolition of a set of temporary provisions which override the constitution and give the president ultimate power.

# Hawke names cabinet

SYDNEY, April 3, (AP): Prime Minister Bob Hawke, preparing to begin fourth term, named eight new ministers in the biggest cabinet reshuffle in eight years.

Meanwhile, Andrew Peacock resigned today as leader of the opposition coalition, following defeat at the hands of Hawke's Labour Party in the March 24 general election. The 148-seat lower house chooses the government.

Final election results are still not in, but it appeared Labour would win 76 seats to the opposition coalition's 70, with two seats going to independents.

Peacock, 51, was replaced as Liberal Party head by former shadow treasurer John Hewson, who had been widely expected to take the helm.

Peacock, who has twice failed to win the prime minister's office, will serve as Hewson's deputy.

In the cabinet moves, Paul Keating was reappointed as treasurer and was also named deputy prime minister. Gareth Evans remained as foreign minister and John Button kept the portfolio for minister of industry, technology and commerce.

Kim Beazley, the former Labour defence minister, moved to transport and communications.

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# Drugs are as devastating as atomic bomb: Andreotti

NICOSIA, April 3, (AP): Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti yesterday warned 436 Parliamentarians from 91 countries that "drugs are at least as devastating and destructive as the atomic bomb."

He was addressing the Inter-Parliamentary Union conference which is meeting to discuss combatting drug trafficking and adapting to new technology for sustainable economic development.

Andreotti thanked the conference for accepting Italy's proposal for making drugs the main item of their week-long agenda.

"If we do not unify the wills and resources of all countries to face this disaster, the joy of having freed humanity from the risks of a Third World War and nuclear holocaust may turn out to be illusory," Andreotti said.

"For both present and future generations drugs are at least as devastating

and destructive as the atomic bomb. We must spare the world from this biblical plague without limiting our sacrifices and initiatives," he added.

The conference was the first such gathering attended by delegates from Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Hungary since the collapse of Eastern Europe's one-party communist governments.

Andreotti and other keynote speakers on the opening day declared that

international developments had made the 113-member union's role more important.

In addition to the prearranged two agenda items, on drugs and sustainable development, the conference chose a third item from a list of nine proposals submitted by different delegations.

It voted overwhelmingly for an omnibus proposal by the host country, Cyprus "on peace and security in the Mediterranean region in the light of

developments in Europe and the new spirit prevailing internationally."

This included the problems of divided Cyprus, the Middle East, Jewish settlement in occupied Arab territories and civil-war ravaged Lebanon.

The adoption of the Cypriot proposal was opposed by Pakistan which argued that it should not be discussed in the absence of Turkey.

Turkey invaded and helped create a

Turkish Cypriot breakaway state in the northern one-third of the island in 1974 after a coup d'etat aimed at uniting the island with Greece.

Turkey, the only nation to recognise the Turkish Cypriot state, is boycotting the conference because it does not recognise the government of President Vassiliou, the Greek Cypriot leader.

The IPU voted yesterday to accept Afghanistan and Laos as members but suspended Benin.



A woman walks past a banner advertising a play in Edendale black township on Monday. More than 50 people have been killed and thousands left homeless during factional fighting over the past week. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Troops to halt Natal clashes

**'Violence must end'**

### Mandela pleads

JOHANNESBURG, April 3, (AP): Heavily-armed soldiers and police in armoured vehicles began deploying today after the government ordered a major crack down on black factional fighting that has cost hundreds of lives.

Police said reinforcements were moving into the shattered Edendale Valley in the southeastern province of Natal to halt clashes between rival Zulu tribal factions. Police Major Piet Kitching said at least 55 people had died and hundreds were injured in the past week.

"A Police report 75day said 13 more people had been killed, mostly in black factional fighting in other parts of the country, but gave few details.

Military officials said combat units were being moved in to Natal and other regions, but declined to give numbers or other details. Police in Edendale said army troops would set up barricades and conduct patrols to stop the fighting.

More than 12,000 refugees, mainly women and children, had fled their homes in the Edendale area and were being sheltered at camps, police said. Rival mobs had burned hundreds of houses, they said.

Mandela repeated his desire to meet with Buthelezi, an old friend despite their political differences.

South Africa's financial markets were hit by the growing unrest. The index on the Johannesburg stock exchange plunged 3.3 per cent today and dealers said clients were worried about the deteriorating political situation.

The pro-apartheid opposition Conservative Party denounced De Klerk's moves today saying it proved the government was pushing the nation into "anarchy and chaos." The opposition group opposes De Klerk's attempts to end apartheid and scrap white-minority rule.

But reaction to the government moves was generally positive. The liberal opposition Democratic party said the security forces had to end the violence.

De Klerk told parliament in Cape Town yesterday he had ordered the security forces to launch a major drive to end unrest in black urban townships and rural areas such as Natal. He said the army had been ordered to end the unrest.

The African National Congress, the main black opposition group, pulled out of planned April 11 meetings with the government to protest police firing on a protest last week in a black township near Sebokeng.

## Pentagon to release Stealth secrets

WASHINGTON, April 3, (AP): The Defense Department is releasing long-classified information about the Delta-winged F-117A Stealth fighter jet, kept secret for years and finally used in combat during the US invasion of Panama.

Responding to requests from reporters, officials scheduled a briefing today that was expected to provide pictures, cost and performance information about the aircraft's radar-avoiding aircraft.

The cost of the programme has never been made public.

The so-called "Stealth" technology refers to design and materials that reduce the ability of enemy radar to detect the craft. This can be achieved by using designs that avoid the direct impact of radar, and by using composite materials that can absorb the radar's energy.

Although the plane reportedly has been operational since 1983, the Pentagon refused to even acknowledge that it existed until November 1988.

At that time, only one photograph of the jet was released. Aviation experts contended the picture was carefully selected to conceal the real dimensions of the plane's radical, swept-back form.

The air force used the super-secret plane in combat for the first time during the invasion of Panama last Dec 20, to bomb a field outside barracks of the Panamanian defence forces.

Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said the fighter-bomber was used to "disorient, stun and confuse" the PDF so it could not react to the US paratroopers dropping onto the nearby Rio Hato airfield.

The fighter was designed to penetrate any radar defence and bomb targets before enemy forces can react.

The plane has stark, angular facets in contrast to the smoother, bat-winged form of the controversial and costly B-2 Stealth bomber.

The F-117A fulfills a non-nuclear role that is held by the B-2, a \$350-million bomber still in development.

Lockheed Corp. was scheduled to deliver the last of its 59 planes this year. Two squadrons of the planes reportedly are operational at Tonopah test range airfield in Nevada, where they have been carefully screened from public view.

For most of their existence, the planes have flown at night to avoid detection by Soviet satellites.

More recently, the plane has flown during the daytime and photographs showing its faceted form and swallow tail have been published in technical journals and magazines.

## Bombs rock Greek cities

ELA, May 1st claim responsibility

ATHENS, April 3, (Reuters): A series of bomb explosions rocked Athens and the northern city of Salonia today injuring a police officer and causing damage to government and union buildings ahead of national elections on Sunday.

An anonymous caller told newspapers the extreme-left guerrilla groups Revolutionary Popular Struggle (ELA) and May 1st placed the bombs. It was the first time the two groups jointly took responsibility for bomb attacks.

The time-bombs went off outside the Economy Ministry, the General Confederation of Greek Workers and the Federation of Greek Industries in central Athens.

One policeman patrolling the area was taken to hospital with cuts from broken glass.

Another bomb caused serious damage to the buildings of the Federation of Northern Greek Industries in Salonia.

ELA and May 1st have waged

a bombing campaign in recent years against government buildings, police stations and private businesses. May 1st guerrillas shot dead a public prosecutor in January 1989.

The bomb explosions were the latest in a series of violent incidents in the run-up to national elections on Sunday. On Sunday a man was shot dead in clashes between supporters of rival political parties on the island of Crete.

Last Tuesday time bombs destroyed a number of cars belonging to diplomats of Eastern European countries.

The leader of Greece's conservative New Democracy Party accused the rival Socialists yesterday of backing organized violence prior to the April 8 general elections.

Constantine Mitsotakis spoke a day after shots fired from a passing car killed a Socialist supporter and injured four people in Iraklion, Crete.

Papandreou described Mitsotakis' statements as "inflammatory" and "morally unacceptable."

Papandreou spoke in a television interview from his home.

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18/5/1990	Starlite Theatre Entertainment City	Valedictory function & musical night

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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

IMAGINATION is more important than knowledge —  
Albert Einstein, German-born physicist (1879-1955).

## OPINION

## Saddam's response to Israel praised

APPARENTLY, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has been "humble" in his response to the Israeli threat as he said that he would destroy half of Israel if it carries out any aggression on Iraq.

Obviously, Israel knows with whom it is dealing and also knows men who translate their words into action. Further, Israel is aware that the present situation is unlike the one when it attacked the Iraqi nuclear plant in 1983 when Iraq was busy in the war. That aggression has certainly left an indelible mark on the Iraqi thinking and it will not pass without Iraq redressing the issue — whether in the near or distant future.

Saddam Hussein is the man who appreciates that the sharpness of the knife has many features. It shaves men's beards and at the same time cuts when used improperly. Saddam Hussein certainly supports "soft shaving" if good relations are the aim. But, shaving becomes too dangerous and deadly against those who attempt to misuse the concept of good relations.

Israel realises that big powers become proud of the victorious at the end as results ultimately matter for these big powers. The very fact that President Saddam had borne in mind when he led his country to victory.

The results of war have either black or white colours and are created by leaders who know how to create victory. Death is the same, whether it comes through defeat or victory. But, it is sweeter for Saddam when it comes with victory and this is what happened when he led his people to victory against those who tried to invade his country.

Israel realises with whom it is dealing now — a people and a leadership who have not yet taken off their military uniform, at the same time speaking of prosperity and progress. These people want to see their country Iraq, which once fed 50 million people and compared thought and creativity with gold, retaining its cultural and intellectual status.

We say this in spite of the fact that we in the Arab world have always been looking for peace, we do not want Israel and others to miscalculate their positions against Iraq, simply because we do not want to see more bloodshed and fighting.

Iraq wants to restore back its civilisation and achieve prosperity like a highly modern country.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

# Punjab bill fails Government embarrassed

By Thomas Abraham  
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister V.P. Singh's government will take quite some time to live down the stunning embarrassment it suffered in the Lok Sabha Friday when it could not get the 64th constitution amendment bill through because it failed to muster even a simple majority in the house.

The bill, seeking to facilitate the extension of president's rule in Punjab by another six months because conditions are not conducive for holding of assembly elections, had already been passed by the Rajya Sabha.

For the ruling National Front, it appeared to be a clear case of self-inflicted humiliation because, despite the issuance of a three-line whip, several senior ministers themselves were absent during the voting at the consideration stage of the bill.

Those absent included Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal, Industry Minister Ajit Singh, Railway Minister George Fernandes, Communication Minister K.P. Unnikrishnan and Civil Supplies Minister Nathu Ram Mirdhan, senior leaders like Chandra Shekhar, who earlier in the day had made a very critical speech, were also not seen in the house at the time of the voting.

Under the Indian constitution, any amendment to the constitution can be affected when the bill to that effect is passed by both houses of Parliament with a "majority of the total membership of the house and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting."

On Friday, only 241 members from all sides were present when the bill was put to vote, despite the fact that all the mainline parties, including the Congress, had agreed to support it. As a first condition, the bill needed the support of a simple majority of 273 members in view of its total strength of 545.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1581 — England's Queen Elizabeth I knights Sir Francis Drake.
- 1611 — Denmark's King Christian IV declares war on Sweden.
- 1618 — Cardinal Richelieu is ordered into exile in Avignon for intrigues with France's Queen mother Marie de Medici.
- 1660 — England's King Charles II issues declaration of Breda, promising religious tolerance.
- 1827 — Note is sent by Russia, France and Britain to Sultan of Turkey urging truce in war with Greece.
- 1844 — Germany occupies South-West Africa, Togoland and Cameroons.
- 1919 — Soviet republic is established in Bavaria.
- 1933 — US Navy Dirigible Akron falls on Atlantic Ocean off New Jersey, taking 73 lives.
- 1942 — Japanese naval forces sink three British warships in Bay of Bengal during World War II.
- 1959 — Ivory Coast signs series of agreements with Niger, Upper Volta and Dahomey to form Sahel-Benin Union.
- 1964 — Archbishop Makarios abrogates 1960 treaty between Greece, Turkey and Cyprus, and heavy fighting erupts in northwest Cyprus.
- 1986 — Israel formally asks for access to United Nations war crimes commission file on former secretary-general Kurt Waldheim.
- 1989 — At least five people are killed when rockets slam into residential neighbourhoods of Kabul, Afghanistan.

Spectre of Stasi being put to rest

## E. Germans to screen deputies

EAST BERLIN, (Reuters): Forty years after countless old Nazis tripped unpunished into a new Stalinist order, East Germans fear old Stalinists are slithering into their new democracy.

An uproar over suspected links of new parliamentarians to the former Stalinist security police recalls the post war challenge of de-Nazification which East Germany virtually ignored for practical and political reasons.

## Screen

Parties anxious to build a credible democracy after the 1989 fall of the communist dictatorship agreed on Thursday to create a parliamentary commission to screen all 400 deputies for past collaboration with the Stasi police.

"What we have here is a problem similar to 1945," said Sebastian Pflugbeil of New Forum, the Reform Movement that mobilised demonstrations across the country on Thursday for a crackdown on old Stasi agents in all walks of life.

"We must come to terms with our Stasi past across the board. We also don't want mayors who once worked for the Stasi. We don't want our children to be taught by ex-Stasi," Pflugbeil said in a newspaper interview.

No such moral confrontation with a painful heritage was attempted or permitted by the Moscow-sponsored Stalinists who founded the East German state in 1949.

Vast numbers of low-ranking party hacks and informers who greased the wheels of Hitler's regime quietly retained their posts under communism. These included such pillars of the community as mayors, teachers, judges and policemen.

## Nazis

Scarce technical and professional skills proved a ticket from the Nazi past into the communist future. More than 70 per cent of teachers had been Nazi party members, for example.

Keen to bolster propaganda painting East Germany as the first and only German state free of fascism, communist rulers swept their people's Nazi heritage under the rug and denied any moral responsibility for the past.

Those people unable or unwilling to melt into the new system fled to the West — or died in internment camps run by Stalin's dreaded NKVD security police.

Three mass graves containing casualties of those camps have been unearthed in East Germany in recent weeks, a grisly sideshow to the anguished row over the Stasi.

Four decades later, East Germans are grappling with the demons of another fallen totalitarian system — Stalinism — and are determined to prevent its fellow travellers from discreetly prospering in their new democracy.

The parallel between the immediate postwar era and today is the moral conflict between getting on with building a future and coming to terms with an unpleasant past," a Western diplomat said.

"You can't compare the Stasi with the Nazis. They're very different beasts. The Nazis caused infinitely more suffering in 12 years than the Stasi did in 40," he said.

## Purge

"But the ensuing challenge for East Germans is similar — to what extend can you purge old Stalinists from public life without leaving yourself short of people to run the country?"

The now defunct Stasi, the omniscient praetorian guard of Stalinist rule, had 85,000 agents and fielded an estimated 109,000 informers in every walk of life.

Anti-Stasi clamour buffeting East Germany underscores a deep emotional need to settle scores with those whose snooping warped and ruined



De Maiziere...clearing name of Stasi affiliation. (Reuters wirephoto)

countless lives.

East Germany's top three politicians — Christian Democrat and prospective prime minister Lothar De Maiziere, Communist Party chief Gregor Gysi and Social Democrat Ibrahim Boehme — now appear to have cleared their names over allegations they were Stasi informers.

The moral conflict may defy solution. "The communists left behind a wrecked state in more ways than one. It seems the country's economic exhaustion will be more easily overcome than the moral flaw of a land where no one could be sure if his friend was a secret tattler for the oppressors," the West German weekly *Die Zeit* commented.

— had to compromise with the Stasi to perform their jobs. Information changed hands even if no paid informers were involved.

Most of those public employees remain in office. Should they be tossed out in a "de-Stalinisation" campaign as well?

The moral conflict may defy solution.

"The communists left behind a wrecked state in more ways than one. It seems the country's economic exhaustion will be more easily overcome than the moral flaw of a land where no one could be sure if his friend was a secret tattler for the oppressors," the West German weekly *Die Zeit* commented.

## Mugabe gets another mandate

HARARE, (Reuters): Zimbabweans have given President Robert Mugabe a new mandate to lead them but, though he has held power for a decade, many of his people are unsure where he is taking them.

Is he still the steely Marxist-Leninist of 1980, bent on turning his country into the kind of socialist one-party state which has collapsed all over Eastern Europe?

Or is he now a mellowed pragmatist, a reluctant convert to the drive for economic liberalisation which is replacing state control throughout Africa?

## Answer

The answer may well be, both. Zimbabwean political scientist Dr Jonathan Moyo believes Mugabe, leader since independence in 1980, is pursuing two contradictory policies at once.

"On the one hand, there is a clear but slow policy of liberalising the economy. On the other hand, there is an equally clear and rather fast policy of de-liberalising national politics," Moyo wrote last week in the weekly *Financial Gazette*.

"The bottom line is that it is dangerous to seek economic liberalisation under conditions of monopoly politics."

Moyo sees Zimbabwe moving closer to the political model provided by non-socialist, even right-wing one-party states such as Zambia, Malawi and Kenya, where capitalism can thrive but political opposition is suppressed.

Kempton Makamure, like Moyo a lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe, says Zimbabwe seems to be copying the malpractices of other African countries and losing the values for which Mugabe's



Mugabe: enigma

guerrilla soldiers fought against white minority rule.

Mugabe, a man of steely intellect and puritan tastes, often seems puzzled and appalled by the shift

in values which has left many people hostile to his kind of Marxist-Leninist socialism.

Despite his personal hostility to capitalism, he has headed the advice of Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero and agreed to urge more foreign investment in Zimbabwe. Cautious trade liberalisation is next on the agenda.

Deeply marked by his Jesuit education, Mugabe sees the political struggle against South Africa in stark moral terms.

Like Kenya's President Moi, he is an ex-schoolmaster with a firm belief he knows what is best for his people.

He quickly claimed his election victory as a mandate to legislate for a one-party state, a long-held aim which had been unattainable until now because of constitutional barriers.

"If we feel that the moment has come for us to establish a one-party state we will do so, and the people will support us," he declared. "It is not a Mugabe thing. Our congress agreed on this policy."

## Vote

"We can use this vote as a mandate and establish a one-party state, or give the people another chance first," he said.

Mugabe argues that a multi-party system is wrong for Africa and says: "The people want the oneness of one Family." For most of its first decade, Zimbabwe was bedevilled by conflict between Mugabe's Zanu-PF and Joshua Nkomo's PF-Zanu.

Since their agreement to merge in December 1987, the country has seen an upturn in economic growth and an end to low-level guerrilla warfare in Matabeleland in which hundreds died.

## Leaflets war opens Palestinian rifts

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (Reuters): A war of leaflets has erupted in the West Bank and Gaza Strip where a stagnating Arab uprising has opened rifts among Palestinian factions which co-operated on the ground for the last two years.

The "war" reflects debate over the direction of the 27-month-old revolt that has gained world attention but failed to break Israel's iron grip on the territories on force the Jewish state to the negotiating table.

## Violence

Muslim and Marxist radicals in the Islamic resistance movement Hamas and the Syrian-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) are demanding greater violence and puritanicalism.

Their increasingly strident pamphlets and graffiti challenge the authority of the PLO-backed unified leadership of the uprising, the underground steering committee which issues regular instructions for strikes and protest actions.

"We are in a mess. The attempt by the PFLP to act alone in certain places is exposing the intifada (uprising) to real dangers," said Radwan Abu Ayash, a leading supporter of the PLO's mainstream Fatah movement.

He said the radicals failed to understand the limits of the Palestinians' ability to bear greater suffering.

The harshest PFLP and Hamas leaflets were sparked by the willingness of mainstream Palestinian leaders to co-operate with US efforts to hold Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in Cairo.

The PFLP, while still participating in the unified leadership, has begun issuing its own communiques attacking moderate Palestinian leaders and calling for more radical action.

## Militants

Masked militants threatened Nablus businessman Said Kenaan, a moderate Fatah supporter, and ransacked his shop last month after newspaper reported him as a potential peace negotiator.

Abu Ayash said the fall of Israel's coalition government had put US peace efforts on ice and triggered an escalation of armed struggle against Israel.

"There is now a very big question mark over the whole peace process. I'm extremely pessimistic about what is happening," he said.

For the first time, the PFLP and the radical Islamic Jihad movement last week jointly enforced a strike in the Bethlehem area in defiance of the unified leadership.

The multitude of rival strike calls has disrupted life in the territories and confused the 1.75 million residents.

PFLP leaflet number three, issued last Friday, attacked the notion that a united Jerusalem should be the capital of both Israel and a Palestinian state, an idea promoted by mainstream nationalist leaders Faisal Husseini and Sari Nusseibeh.

It also called on Israel's 650,000 Arab citizens to join the uprising, whereas the PLO has been careful to limit their role to political and financial support rather than participation.

## Hardline

The fundamentalist Hamas, which has never had a good word to say about Palestinian Marxist, singled the PFLP's hardline stance out for praise in its latest leaflet.

Some Palestinians ascribe to sectarian rivalry the gruesome killings of alleged collaborators with Israel in defiance of Fatah orders for restraint.

Israel's Shin Bet security services skillfully exploit the friction, putting out bogus leaflets and spray-painting misleading graffiti in a campaign to discredit Palestinian activists, residents say.

## Art Buchtold

## Unification triggers nerves

THERE are a few people — not many — who are slightly nervous about a unified Germany. These folks suffer from déjà vu and, while the world has no reason to shiver, we should address their fears.

Feldman, my watch repairman, is certain he knows what the trouble is going to start. He thinks it will be something like this:

It's eight years from today, and Germany is统一. Schultz, a former East German bricklayer, and now a prosperous orthodontist, is building a new home in Schnitzel Gardens, which is east of Leipzig.

House

Schultz's architect, Mendelsohn, comes to visit him with the plans. "Schultz, I can get the house on your land but I don't have room for a garage."

"I have to have a garage," Schultz insists. "My new Mercedes-Benz is being delivered in six weeks."

Mendelsohn says, "Look for yourself. Where are we going to build a garage?"

Schultz studies the plans: "How about here?"

"But that's Poland!"

"It was Germany before it was Poland. The people of Poland stole it from us after World War II. We must be allowed to build German garages on German soil."

Mendelsohn explains, "If we built your garage in Poland, we would be violating the Treaty of Peace."

Treaty

Schultz says, "A bunch of old men who sold us our signed that treaty. We have a new Germany now, and that Germany permits us to build on any part of the fatherland that we want to."

Mendelsohn tells him, "I'm not suggesting that you are wrong. Admittedly, there are a lot of German-speaking Poles living on the land where we want to build our garage. At the same time, I don

# SPD agrees to coalition talks

Monetary union angers GDR

EAST BERLIN, April 3, (Agencies): East Germany's Social Democrats (SPD) said today they would enter coalition negotiations with the election-winning Conservative Alliance for Germany and a smaller Liberal Alliance.

The top SPD leadership had recommended yesterday that the party should not enter coalition talks with the alliance, headed by the Christian Democrats.

But acting SPD leader Markus Meckel told a news conference the entire leadership and parliamentary deputies had decided later on Monday to go into negotiations after all to try to form East Germany's first non-communist government.

## Boehme tried to kill himself

Bonn paper claims

BONN, April 3, (Agencies): East German Social Democrat (SPD) leader Ibrahim Boehme, who resigned amid allegations that he worked for the hated Stasi security police, tried to commit suicide last week, a West German newspaper reported today.

The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, quoting "certain sources in Bonn," said Boehme tried to kill himself last Friday and suffered serious head wounds.

The well-respected newspaper gave no further details except to say the politician was admitted to a hospital.

Yesterday, party sources said Boehme, 46, had collapsed and been taken to hospital at the weekend. He was now staying with friends at a secret address, apparently in West Germany, and was said to be suffering from a recurrent ear infection.

Boehme, his health and nerves shattered by the Stasi charges he has repeatedly denied, is the second top East German politician in recent weeks to resign over allegations of links to the Stasi, the former communist government's secret police.

Thousands of people demonstrated in the East German cities of Dresden and Magdeburg yesterday to protest the alleged connections between new lawmakers and the former secret police, the government news service ADN reported.

The demonstrators demanded a full investigation of the parliament. A group of 15 prominent East German Social Leaders and intellectuals issued a statement also demanding a probe.

A top political leader said the influence of the organisation was so widespread that East Germany may need international help to ferret out former secret police operatives from the new leadership.

Boehme, who twice lost jobs



Markus Meckel

because he spoke out against the former communist government, resigned just three days after he personally inspected the files of the secret service network known as the Stasi.

The party said in a statement earlier that Boehme fainted and was hospitalised on Friday after inspecting the Stasi files on him. He was released after an examination and was reported staying with friends.

The Stasi are reviled by most East Germans because they controlled and intimidated citizens with a wide network of informants during the years of Stalin-style rule.

Boehme, 46, said he was resigning because the process of clearing his name will require "lengthy investigations" and further burden the task of forming East Germany's first democratic government, said August Kamilli, a high-ranking Social Democrat.

Boehme had also cited health problems, including heart trouble and an inner ear infection, said Markus Meckel, the party's deputy chairman and Boehme's likely successor.

Boehme, who twice lost jobs

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**8,100 buried at Stalinist camp: daily**

EAST BERLIN, April 3, (UPI): An East German daily said yesterday that about 8,100 German prisoners of war were believed buried in mass graves at the site of a Soviet detention camp near the East German town of Muelenberg.

The East German authorities, which had long ignored the existence of such mass graves, have brought the issue to public attention recently and started exhuming bodies at one site near East Berlin last Friday.

Other mass graves were discovered on the grounds of a former detention camp in Neubrandenburg.

The Saechsische Zeitung, attributing its information to former inmates of the Muelenberg Detention Camp in the south of the country, said the prisoners had been subjected to "humane treatment" that often led to their deaths.

Muelenberg regional history expert, Herbert Mueller, said an estimated 46,000 prisoners were detained in the camp which operated between 1945 and 1948.

## Shevardnadze in US talks; summit date may be announced

# Lithuania seeking a compromise

MOSCOW, April 2, (AP): Lithuanian officials are seeking a compromise with Moscow over independence and attempting to cool tensions.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis made conciliatory comments yesterday in a telegram to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and in comments to the Supreme Council Legislature of Lithuania.

Lithuania's declaration of independence on March 11 "may seem to some people... a demand that power be handed over the very next day," he said. "We did not expect this and did not count upon it."

Instead, Landsbergis told legislators the republic had stated "how by means of agreements and a gradual takeover of certain functions we would consolidate our independence."

There was no immediate response from Moscow.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze arrives today in Washington, and officials said he would be questioned closely by President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker about the independence crisis in Lithuania.

However, a senior US official said the Lithuania issue would not crowd other important matters from the agenda.

Baker and Shevardnadze also are likely to discuss — and perhaps announce — a date for the next summit meeting between Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. The summit is tentatively planned to be held in Washington during the second half of June.

Shevardnadze was to be met at Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland at mid-day by Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

Soviet soldiers yesterday continued to occupy a prosecutor's office in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, and a newspaper printing plant, and a legislator loyal to the Communist Party told editors of pro-independence.

The communist leader did not repeat his criticism of West German-proposed formula for monetary union, which has drawn sharp denunciations from East German politicians.

In an address to the global panel gathering on Europe's political and economic future, Modrow said he preferred moves toward reunifying the two Germanies to be dependent on progress in the so-called two-plus-four talks.

The latest idea for uniting the currencies of the two Germanies has angered East Germans, prompting them to organise protests and accuse the West German chancellor of reneging on campaign promises.

Karl Otto Pöhl, the influential head of West Germany's central bank, has insisted that most East German marks be swapped at a 2-to-1 rate when the mighty Deutsche mark takes over as East Germany's currency sometime this year.

But the idea has created an uproar among East Germans expecting a general 1-to-1 swap. The proposal has also led East Germans to accuse West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl of breaking promises he made while campaigning on behalf of a conservative alliance.

Postal workers in the East German city of Suhl yesterday held a warning strike to press for a 1-to-1 conversion rate, and East Germany's labour union federation is organising a nation-wide demonstration for Thursday.

Both German states have agreed to set up a currency union, viewing it as a crucial step toward unifying their countries.

Under the current plans, West Germany eventually would take over East Germany's economic policies. Bonn would like the currency union in place by July 1, but many details remain to be worked out.



Vilnius residents queue at the Central Post Office to send telegrams of protest to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in reply to his recent appeal to the people of Lithuania. (Reuter wirephoto)



Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis pauses to reflect during meeting on Saturday.

## Lithuanian steps toward freedom

VILNIUS, USSR, April 3, (AP): The standard photograph of Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin, usually hanging in the office of every factory manager, has vanished from the wall over the desk of Vincas Babilius.

"I had all the books, too," Babilius said, pointing to bare shelves that once held the works of Lenin and Marx Marx.

Since Lithuania declared independence on March 11, Babilius no longer feels compelled to follow the Soviet model in order to run the Vilnius electrical measuring device factory.

While Lithuania's political leaders struggle daily with Moscow's effort to make them renounce the declaration, people all over the small Baltic nation are quietly moving to establish a state run on its own principles.

newspapers that the papers could not be printed at the plant.

Gorbachev on Saturday said talks on independence could take place only if Lithuania renounced its declaration of independence. Gorbachev said refusal may result in "grave consequences for all of us."

Landsbergis told legislators that Gorbachev made the toughly worded statements probably because he faces his own political difficulties from conservatives and other independence-minded republics.

"Therefore it is essential to look for a way of helping them

They have an enormous task. Lithuania's telephone and connections to the outside world go through Moscow. Its sole direct route to Poland and the outside world is a tiny back road so overused that passing through border formalities can require days. Its relatively robust economy is intertwined with the lumbering Soviet economic system, which is rapidly careening downhill.

Babilius has begun to cut the ties, starting with the required political meetings that helped ensure the communist's grip on power but consumed time.

"At work, you have to work," he said simply.

Lithuanians are forging ahead with preparations for the day when secession will be a reality. 50 years after the Baltic state was absorbed into the Soviet Union.

Landsbergis said.

But the Lithuanian president told lawmakers he did not mean the republic was ready to renounce its declaration of independence. Instead, it wants debate and discussion with Moscow.

Lithuania was ready to open

talks that included discussion of the "legal status of Lithuania in relation to the Soviet Constitution and international law," Landsbergis said.

His comments were carried on Lithuanian radio and monitored by the British Broadcasting Corp. in London.

## EEC urges quicker aid for East Europe

LUXEMBOURG, April 3, (Reuter): European Economic Community foreign ministers called yesterday for EEC aid programmes to be extended to all of Eastern Europe as quickly as possible, diplomats said.

They quoted Italy's Gianni de Michelis as saying that the community had to provide continual encouragement for these countries rather than wait for them to complete their transitions from communism to democracy.

The EEC last year launched a programme of food aid, training and other economic assistance for Poland and Hungary, the two countries in the vanguard of change.

It has earmarked 500 million European Currency Units (\$600 million) for aid this year, 850 million ECU for 1991 and a billion for 1992.

The so-called "group of 24" industrialised countries, whose aid the EEC commission is co-ordinating, have also agreed in principle that the other emerging democracies should benefit from their co-ordinated actions.

Officials said EEC external relations commission Frans Andriessen told the meeting that fact-finding missions to the other states had sufficient data about their requirements for decisions to be made by a ministerial meeting of the 24 in June.

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# Bee-keepers being encouraged in Kuwait

## Bid to produce honey

provision of the local needs of honey.

He added that the authority has monitored bee keepers in the country in order to probe the problems facing them and to discuss diseases which apiaries may encounter.

In the light of its discussion with the beekeepers the authority had set up the organisational regulations governing the imports of bees which will be subject to certain safety conditions to ensure that imported bees were free of disease. He

added that the authority was concentrating on the import of bees which are capable of adapting to the country's climatic conditions.

Apart from the above, the official said that the authority inspectors were providing the necessary instructions and guidance to bee keepers. Additionally, the authority has organised field training courses for bee keepers entitled "How to raise and care for bees". He added that about 73 trainees were involved in these

courses. The trainees were subject to an intensified programme under the supervision of the Agricultural Guidance Department at the authority. These training courses included a number of films and successful graduates will be given certificates.

In conclusion, the official called on citizens dealing in the agricultural field not to hesitate to contact the departments concerned at the authority for obtaining the guidance related to their activities.



Stocking up for breakfast

Consumption, specially for families during the holy month of Ramadan increases considerably compared to other months in the year and for many families expenditure exceeds budget every year during this period.

In addition to the increased needs of commodities specially food stuffs, the increase of expenditure is attributed to the increase in prices of several commodities such as "Omar Al Been, nuts of all types, cheeses and other such commodities. It is tradition that families visit one another during the Ramadan period to break the fast and consequently delicacies have to be provided and that too in large quantities.

Ismael Ibrahim a shopper anticipates price hikes to be even steeper than the past due to the increase in the salaries of government employees and commented that a lack of price censorship has

encouraged many merchants to increase their prices. He commented that the consumers protection department should play an effective role in controlling prices.

He said that he usually prepares a month in advance of Ramadan and purchases most of his good from wholesale shops. The general trend to rush at the eleventh hour by most consumers leads to a shortage and creates an artificial demand leading to a price increase, he said.

Another consumer said that prices of vegetables and other fruits enjoy price increases as they have coincided with the spring season. However, he said that many families have stored other items that they need for a month and commented that these items fall within the range of goods having long expiry dates.

## Spray bedrooms advice

## Mosquitoes invade country

SWARMS of the common mosquito have begun to invade the country as a result of the relative stability in the weather conditions and is a cause of nuisance to people who sit outdoors to enjoy the fresh breeze.

According to an insecticide specialist at the Public Health Ministry, Dr Ali Slati, the insect currently seen in the residential areas is a seasonal type of insect which commonly spreads with the advent of summer, adding that it carried no disease-causing viruses.

He pointed out that there are two species of this type of insect, stinging and non-stinging. Some

people have a certain level of allergy to it, who break out at the mere landing of this insect on their skins, due to the alkaline substance secreted by the insect.

This insect is expected to disappear from Kuwait within two or three weeks the official said, and in the meantime the sand storm yesterday could wipe out its presence as moderate weather condition is responsible for its reproduction.

He said that the organic material and algae found close to coasts, farms swimming pools or house gardens form the fertile breeding bed for this type of insect. They also become

extremely activated by southern or northern winds.

He stressed the current Health Ministry efforts to combat this insect adding that the main concern is to destroy disease-carrying insects, using insecticides safe to the environment and to people.

He urged people not to use strong insecticides to kill these insects at home, stressing that the common house-fly killer will give good results if it does not contain long-term insect killer.

He said that it will be advisable to lightly spray bedrooms with insecticides before using them, pointing that the light attract this insect.



Science camp

Kuwait Science Club held a party for the ending of science camps programmes for outstanding students at the third secondary stage. The programme was organised by the Science Club in co-operation with the Ministry of Education from Nov 13, 1983 until March 15, 1990.

A special speech was delivered by the club general secretary Dawoud Al Ahmad who pointed out that this was the first experiment of its kind in Kuwait and the Gulf area.

Director of the School Activity Department, Bader Al Mashroukh stated that such camps have provided participants with adequate scientific atmosphere in order for them to express their interests. He indicated that these camps are held upon an Amiri wish to patronise outstanding students.

Dawoud and Mashroukh distributed among lecturers and participants from the Ministry of Defence, the Fire Fighting Department and students received certificates of their effective participation.

## Khorafi accepts Jaafar resignation

KUWAIT's Minister of Finance Jassim Al Khorafi was quoted as saying that he has approved recently the resignation of the director of London based Kuwait Investment Bureau Fuad Jaafar.

In an interview with a local daily, the minister disclosed that Sheikh Fahed Mohammed Al Sabah has been assigned as acting director of the bureau until the issue of the relevant decision appointing a new director is settled.

Meanwhile, the daily learnt

the resigned official will undertake a new leading post at Kuwait Public Investment Authority as of April 15. It added that the authority will impose strict control on the investment bureau in a measure aimed at minimising the importance of British capital as an investment centre and in order to divert to new markets throughout the world.

The daily quoted an official source as saying that the authority in the light of the new policy has shifted four officials from London office to Kuwait by the end of 1989 and a new board of

directors had been appointed for the office as of the beginning of this year.

On the other hand, the authority has recently announced a new investment plan through four vehicles, the first of which is the London office, the second to be represented by setting up foreign financial centres, the third through local and regional financial institutions and the fourth will be represented by some firms and institutions in which the Public Investment Authority holds shares.

## Solving the dilemma of young Palestinians

By Lima Al Khalafawi

Arab Times staff

THE Palestinian issue has wider ramifications than what meets the eye. Without elucidating on the usurpation of Palestinian lands per se, the dispersion of Palestinians to all corners of the globe is a cause of dilemma to the Palestinian individual and social "think-tank" in these countries where the majority of these displaced Palestinians have sought a certain level of unification among themselves, according to head of the Palestinian Women's Association in Kuwait, Siham Dabagh.

Under her leadership the association is looking after the education of 2,600 Palestinian students in Kuwait providing KD 200,000 annually for their tuition. The association also attributes to the welfare of 82 Palestinian families in Kuwait, also it has a number of 4,000 members participating in several activities of this association.

Dabagh who is an official with long experience said that every Palestinian passed through one problem, or another, simply because he or she is outside and far away from his homeland.

Dabagh speaking with emotion, related her past experience and suffering when she and her family were forcibly evicted from their house and moved out of Jaffa. She fervently hoped that they would return in a couple of days, but this hope never materialised.

Dabagh with deep memories of her childhood in Palestine never forgets the scene of the British soldiers, who broke into their house many times searching for her father "head" of the Muslim Youth Association and a well known activist against the British mandate in Palestine".

Dabagh, in her early childhood at that time remembers her father reciting the Quran when the British soldiers came asking her mother about him. Her father, a man who was 45 years old at that time presented himself to the soldiers and declared "I am Ali Dabagh".

Dabagh can never until this moment forget her father's watch being snatched by a soldier who assured her mother that they would come again. She with her mother and brothers spent that night at their grandfather's house after the soldiers took her father away. The next morning they were informed by the neighbours about the same soldiers asking about her mother. For two years they continued to live at their grandfather's house until her father was released from jail.

Dabagh recalled the past when their house was bombed by Israel and were forced along with her family to spend two consecutive days trying to go in a boat from Jaffa to Gaza. "That was like a nightmare as the boat tossed on the high waves" she said.



Siham Dabagh

Finally they succeeded in reaching Gaza. From there they travelled in a truck to Lydda along with their wounded brother who had to be carried in a stretcher. She remembered before they left their house how her mother covered the furniture, folding her gold and Persian carpets in the hope that they return after a few days. It was 1948 at that time when Jaffa fell to the Israelis and the family moved to live in Syria.

She remembered another incident from her childhood. Once she wanted to buy shoes from Tel Aviv, her father put her on his lap and told her "With the money you pay for the shoes, Israel will buy bullets and arms to kill you and us". She returned to school next day and told all her friends not to purchase any goods from Tel Aviv.

Dabagh who never visited her homeland since 1948 revealed that she cannot bear the idea of being checked by Israelis as she will lose her temper. She is informed that her 1948 Jaffa and its main landmarks do not exist any more, because it was demolished and new buildings have been erected by Israelis.

"The suffering that you undergo becomes more painful when you are forced to live outside your homeland", she said. Dabagh who is a staunch defender of the rights of her people to their lands, said that after 40 years the determination to solve the Palestinian issue still exists, yet with

the intifada they will be able to regain Palestine.

Talking about Palestinians inside the occupied lands, she said all Palestinians irrespective of their age or religion support each other in fighting the enemy. The mentality of all Palestinians dispersed all over the globe is focused to spare no efforts or money in the support of their heroic ummada.

"Women in particular became more open-minded and educated". Citing an example of a wife of an expelled activist that wrote back to inform him that she is "saving money to buy a piece of land to cultivate it and live on instead of leaving her country and losing her homeland in exile", she added.

Dabagh said women inside and outside the occupied lands are fully aware of their role and the priorities instead of feeding their children with milk and food, they feed their minds with thoughts of regaining their lands. Palestinian women wherever they are form associations so that they can fulfil their need of staying in close contact with each other.

The struggle will be carried on by the next generation. Her grandson who is only six years old already talks about saving money and fighting Israel. She said such ideas are taking root in the minds of the young Palestinians thanks to the inspiration provided by their parents and grandparents.

## Bleepers stopped

THE Kuwait Mobile Telephone System Company has decided to stop distributing the "Pager" systems and reject any new application for the acquisition of these systems, following the increasing complaints by the owners of mobile telephone systems and pager equipment of the inability to get a free line in the evenings and the peak hour.

A local daily reported that a proposed solution to alleviate the pressure on the existing exchange office involves the establishment of a new system based on the expansion of the office's capacity by 20,000 more lines.

The paper added that the company is currently considering encouraging mobile subscribers to economise in the use of their equipment, through offering them ample financial facilities in return for their positive response to the company's appeal, such as the reduction of their annual subscription fees.



Workers union

The Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Naser Mohammed Al Sabah received at his office at the ministry recently a delegation from the Kuwait General Workers Union, in the presence of his undersecretary, Issa Yaseen.

## Kuwaiti standards in aviation high

BRIGADIER Pilot Dawood Sulaiman Al Ghanem, commander of the Kuwaiti Airforce was born in Kuwait in 1939 and joined the Kuwait Army in Sep. 1962 after graduating from Shuwaikh Secondary School. Ghanem's first flight was on August 28, 1958 after he had joined the Kuwait Army Aviation Club previously located in Nizwa. After obtaining his commercial flying licence, he went to Scotland to attend a training course and gained a Pilot Certificate which qualified him to join the Airforce of Kuwait. He is considered one of the first Kuwaiti pilots to fly jet fighters.

Interviewed by a local daily, he said that the level of Kuwaiti aviation could be considered to be on a par with the best in the world.

Speaking on the Iran-Iraq war, he said that Kuwait was not directly involved, but because it was near the border, the Kuwaiti Airforce was put on alert at all times. However, this alert period provided Kuwait with the experience in dealing with early warning systems of enemy aircraft.

He said that the entry of F-18 jet fighters in the Kuwait Airforce will contribute in a small measure to enhancing their capabilities. The F-18 are expected to actively be a part of the airforce as early as 1992, he added.

Brigadier Ghanem said that the Air Photography Section plays a vital role in the services and provides section photographs of Kuwait from different altitudes and also prepares maps. This section's services are highly valuable to the airforce, the official added.

# Ministries respond to CSC administrative plan

## Bid to upgrade performance

THE Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Development Affairs at Kuwait's Civil Service Commission (CSC) Dr Naser Al Sanea was quoted as saying that about 29 governmental authorities had showed great response to the first follow-up report prepared by CSC to be referred to the Cabinet.

He added that the report was prepared in accordance with the Cabinet decision

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Amiri audience

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): HH the Amir received yesterday board chairman and members of the Qadessiyah Sports Club and players of the volleyball team as well as chairman and board members of Kazemah Sports Club and players of the basketball team on occasion of winning first places in the volleyball and basketball contests of the 10th Arab Gulf Tournament, recently held in Kuwait.

The audience was attended by Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed and President of the Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed.

#### Premier receives

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdalla Al Sabah received yesterday at Bayan Palace board chairman and members of the Qadessiyah Sports Club and players of the volleyball team as well as chairman and board members of Kazemah Sports Club and players of the basketball team on occasion of winning first places in the volleyball and basketball contests of the 10th Arab Gulf Tournament, recently held in Kuwait.

The audience was attended by Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed and President of the Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed.

#### Kuwaiti envoy

CAIRO, April 3, (Kuna): Egypt's Prime Minister Dr Atef Sidki yesterday received Kuwait's Ambassador in Cairo Abdul Razzaq Al Kandary.

Later, Kandary told Kuna that he has conveyed a message from HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdalla containing an invitation to Dr Sidki to visit Kuwait.

The envoy added the invitation has been accepted by Dr Sidki and a date for the visit would be determined after the present Ramadan (fasting) month.

#### New Syrian envoy

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): Syria has named Dr Mustafa Haj Ali to become its new ambassador to Kuwait, it was learnt today.

Dr Mustafa is at present director of the office of Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam. He is expected to arrive here after Ramadan to present his credentials to HH the Amir.

Dr Haj Ali is his country's first ambassador to Kuwait in more than two years when the assignment of his predecessor, Dr Eisa Darwesh expired in late December 1987.

#### Labour discussions

ABU DHABI, April 3, (Reuter): Arab countries fear that change in Eastern Europe will bring in new cheap labour and force out around one million Arab workers.

United Arab Emirates Labour and Social Affairs Minister Khalid Al Roumi was quoted by Al Ittihad newspaper today as saying the Arabs would discuss the problem with West European countries.

#### Iraq-Tunisia co-op

TUNIS, April 3, (Kuna): The higher Iraqi-Tunisian joint committee for co-operation will hold a session here tomorrow, it was announced here yesterday.

Iraqi First Deputy Premier Taha Yasin Ramadan will head the Iraqi side in the two-day talks which will centre on ways of increasing the level of commercial exchanges in addition to bilateral relations.

#### Mubarak receives

KUWAIT, April 3, (Kuna): Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad received in his office yesterday manager of the Lebanese Dar Essayad Press House, Bassam Ferha on occasion of his visit to Kuwait at the invitation of the information ministry.

**Snake causes car crash**

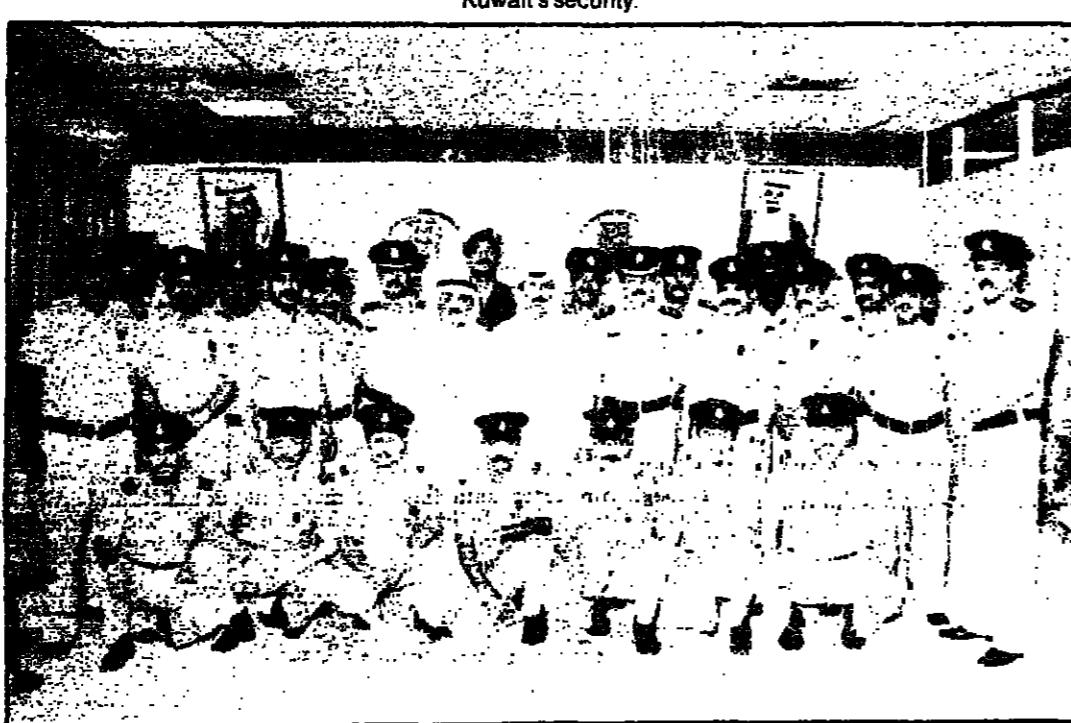
NICOSIA, April 3, (Reuter): A man who thought he was alone in his car as he drove to a village west of Muscat was surprised to find he had a visitor — a three-foot snake.

The Oman News Agency said he panicked, crashed and was knocked unconscious. Police said the snake was found unharmed in the wreckage.



Amiri medals awarded

Director-General of the Criminal Evidence Department, Col Saud Al Bargas, gave away yesterday medals provided by HH the Amir to a number of officers in the department for their excellent services. Col Bargas called upon the honoured officers to consider these medals as a motivation to protect and preserve Kuwait's security.



From the courts

## Man gets 7 years for attempted rape

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man to seven years penal servitude for the attempted rape of his neighbour's newly hired Sri Lankan maid.

The court was told that the accused approached the maid early one morning when she was washing the car of her employer and demanded to know her name and nationality, which she willingly provided thinking he was a security officer.

However, the accused waited until no-one was in the house and then climbed the wall and went to the maid's quarters where he tried to rape her. However, she put a valiant fight and managed to leave scratch marks on his face before he escaped.

Based on the description of the maid's testimony, police successfully arrested the accused.

SECURITY MEN in Jahra arrested the driver of a Chevy van who had earlier evaded a border checkpoint at Salma. However, an APB facilitated the identification of the car by the police patrol.

A rifle and 55 bullets were found with the driver in addition to bits of glass of liquor bottles. Consequently, securitymen followed the track of the car made as the driver tried to drive away when he first observed the police and found 14 cartons of liquor and 11 bottles strewn along the truck's tracks.

Meanwhile, the same officers spotted a red Mazda parked in a suspicious manner half a kilometre away from the checkpoint and on investigation found ten cartons of liquor and 21 bottles of assorted alcohol.

The suspects and the contraband have been referred to the authorities for further investigation.

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man identified as Sunil to six months imprisonment for manufacturing alcohol at his residence.

The court was told that Sunil was holding function for a number of friends as he was leaving Kuwait permanently. Police who were informed, initially tried to purchase some alcohol, but were unsuccessful. Subsequently, they raided his residence and a quantity of alcohol and manufacturing equipment were seized.

THE Court of Higher Appeals overturned the judgement of the Criminal Court which had refused on passing sentence on an accused arrested for forcibly entering and molesting a lady and sentenced him to three years imprisonment with hard labour.

The court was told that the accused one day prior to the incident had seen the lady identified as Huda with whom he had a love relationship five years ago and she invited him to his apartment during the absence of her husband.

However, when he arrived at the apartment, the lady refused to see him and he forcibly entered and tried to kiss and fondle the lady. She reported the incident to the police.

suggesting that the government authorities should prepare a short term plan on administrative development projects during the period from 1.11.1989 up to 30.6.1990.

#### Follow-up

The official said that the Civil Service Commission had requested the government authorities to provide the CSC with

the necessary follow-up reports covering the period. The closing date for the first report was set as 15.3.1990 and for the other on 15.7.1990.

Meanwhile, the official thanked all the government authorities who showed co-operation with the administrative development sector which is represented by submitting its relevant reports on this

matter and urged the other authorities to forward their reports to the CSC as early as possible.

He disclosed that in the light of the relevant follow-up reports received from the governmental authorities, the Civil Service Commission, will conduct a comparative study in order to upgrade performance at the different governmental authorities.

## Discounted fares to end, says Al official

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

A GROUP of five airlines, led by Kuwait Airways, are anxious to bring parity between market level fares and IATA fares. Air India's director for Gulf and Middle East M.P. Mascarenhas told a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel yesterday.

This means that the airlines are seriously working toward ending discounted fares, a practice begun in January this year under KAC's Yield Improvement Programme (YIP). The group has KAC, Air India, Saudi, Emirates and Gulf Air and will shortly include Syrian Arab Airlines. Air India signed a bilateral agreement with KAC last year.

"Ultimately, all airlines will fall in line and charge IATA level fares," said Mascarenhas. KAC, he said, was keen to improve yield and services and has been working toward eliminating disparity in fares.

The Al official said that the airline has seen a 10 per cent increase in the traffic flow between Kuwait and India. He expected a similar rise this year. There are eight Al flights to India but the airline is planning to have "some extra flights" to cope with the summer rush.

"I can't tell you how many extra flights we will have but if the need arises, we'll have them," he said.

Mascarenhas said he held meetings with representatives of the Goan Welfare Society and the United Malayalee Organisation. The Goans submitted a memorandum asking for the introduction of family fare, review of baggage allowance and airline schedules.



## Tribalism, Islam and guns should be retained

ABU DHABI, April 3, (Reuter): North Yemen's top tribal chief says tribalism and Islam should retain their importance in a multi-party political system, and tribesmen should have the traditional right to carry weapons.

"In my opinion, pluralism is better than a one-party system, but it should be based on the Yemeni people's beliefs, which are mainly Islam," Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al Ahmar, was quoted on Monday as saying in the UAE newspaper Al-Ittihad.

The Yemeni people in the city and the countryside are all from tribes. All of them stick to their traditions and yet back the Yemeni state. There is no contradiction between tribalism and the state," said Ahmar, who is chief of the Hasher Tribe.

Tribesmen would continue to carry weapons because "We consider them part of our tradition," he said.

North and South Yemen last November agreed a political merger and reforms including the right to form political parties when the two states finally unite.

The court was told that Sunil was holding function for a number of friends as he was leaving Kuwait permanently. Police who were informed, initially tried to purchase some alcohol, but were unsuccessful. Subsequently, they raided his residence and a quantity of alcohol and manufacturing equipment were seized.

THE Court of Higher Appeals overturned the judgement of the Criminal Court which had refused on passing sentence on an accused arrested for forcibly entering and molesting a lady and sentenced him to three years imprisonment with hard labour.

The court was told that the accused one day prior to the incident had seen the lady identified as Huda with whom he had a love relationship five years ago and she invited him to his apartment during the absence of her husband.

However, when he arrived at the apartment, the lady refused to see him and he forcibly entered and tried to kiss and fondle the lady. She reported the incident to the police.

## AEUC withdrawal decision objective

### Avoiding duplication major concern

KUWAIT'S withdrawal from the Arab League's Arab Economic Unity Council is not against any bloc nor is it against any Arab joint economic march, Assistant Undersecretary at Kuwait's Ministry of Finance, Mustafa Jassim Al Shamali was quoted as saying.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that Kuwait's stand is based on the conviction that its contribution to the respective council is no longer seen as making any positive contribution to the Arab economic joint activities.

Elucidating, he said that Kuwait had called on several occasions for the development of the Arab Economic Unity Council, including the evaluation of the other Arab specialised organisations as far back as 1975, in addition to revising of the Arab Joint Defence Pact and the Arab Economic Fact which had been concluded among Arab countries within the framework of the Arab League.

He added that these efforts had resulted in setting up of the Arab Economic and Social Council which groups in its membership the Arab economies and finance ministers and is aimed at supervising Arab specialised organisations and setting up of any new Arab organisations — subject to the approval of the council.

#### Deliberations

Shamali went on to state that different changes prevailing in the Arab arena had entailed the review of the current Arab joint organisation and Kuwait had participated in these deliberations. He added that the committee in its recommendation had called for preventing the setting up of any new organisations in addition to forming a co-ordination committee among Arab organisations which undertakes to submit relevant reports about the achievements of these organisations to the Arab Economic and Social Council.

The official pointed out that the economic crisis which faced a number of Arab countries had resulted in these countries not being in a position to honour

## War damaged copters repaired: Iran

NICOSIA, April 3, (AP): Two US-built military helicopters damaged in the 1980-88 Gulf war have been repaired by Iranian technicians and successfully test flown, Iran's state-run television network reported recently.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, showed the two navy RH-53E mine-sweeper helicopters take off, hover and land.

But the broadcast did not say whether the RH-53E's complex avionics and weapons systems were operational. A chronic shortage of spare parts for its US-made weapons systems rendered many of Iran's aircraft non-operational for combat during the war.

Defence Minister Akbar Torkan said in an

interview that more than 15,000 man-hours were spent rebuilding the helicopters, which he said were among "the most complex and biggest aircraft we have, and among the largest in the world."

He said that "Iran is one of the very few countries which has the capability to rebuild and overhaul this type of aircraft."

Since the August 1988 ceasefire in the war with Iraq, the Iranians claim to have rebuilt and overhauled a number of advanced aircraft, including F-14 Tomcat interceptors, Boeing 747s and C-130 transports, without foreign assistance, amid a major drive to build up a domestic arms industry.

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## Special training for handicapped

THE Ministry of Education has set up a joint committee to offer professional training to some categories of handicapped who are unable to comprehend or react with professional programmes at the special education schools.

The committee comprises experts from the Ministry of Education and the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training. The committee will study the cases of these handicapped pupils in these schools which are reported to be on the increase.

The committee is headed by the director of planning department at the Paed, Mansour Al Mishaaq and includes nine specialised teachers at the authority and the special education schools.

## MIDEAST

Cairo trial

## Death call for Khaled Nasser

CAIRO, April 3, (Agencies): A senior prosecutor renewed calls for the death sentence to be passed on eleven persons, including the eldest son of late Egyptian revolutionary leader Gamal Abdel Nasser, for leading a group which attacked Israeli and American targets, the semi-official daily Al Ahram reported yesterday.

Assistant attorney-general Ragab El Arabi was quoted as pressing the state security court examining the case to pass death sentences against the eleven defendants, "for their crimes against unarmed innocent civilians."

El Arabi called for sentences of life imprisonment with hard labour to be passed on nine other defendants, who also belong to the banned, anti-government "Egypt revolution" group.

El Arabi said that Nasser's eldest son Khaled, the leader of the underground group, and ten other members should face the death penalty because they were the leaders of the "Egypt revolution."

He charged Khaled, 40, with providing other gang members with arms and money to carry out the attacks.

"According to Egyptian law, all eleven leaders of this gang of no heroes must face the death penalty, and the other nine should serve life imprisonment with hard labour for the crimes they have committed against innocent unarmed civilians," El Arabi said.

"Their crimes undermined

the country's national security, and were harmful to its national interests and to the interests of the Arab world," he said.

"They decided to attack Americans when they couldn't find Israelis easily," El Arabi said.

Egyptian security forces managed to smash the underground group, which wants to continue Nasser's Pan-Arab radical nationalism and socialism, three years ago after years of failure.

The group claimed responsibility for a series of attacks against Israeli and US targets between June 1984 and May 1987, in which two Israelis were killed, and five Israelis and two Americans were injured.

Khaled and a nephew of the late president Nasser were tried in absentia after fleeing the country. Police believe they are in Yugoslavia.

Eighteen defendants still in Egypt have pleaded not guilty to charges of murder, causing actual bodily harm, being members of a banned group, subversion and terrorism.

• President Hosni Mubarak has warned against undermining the country's unity and said that attempts to carry out such an act will be dealt with harshly.

This warning came during a cabinet meeting, under Mubarak's chairmanship, during which the ministers were briefed on a report by Interior Minister Maj. Gen. Abdel Halim Mousa on recent events at the governorate of Minya.

## Jordan to recall embassy officials

AMMAN, April 3, (AP): Prime Minister Mudar Badran's government decided yesterday to recall 40 Jordanian non-diplomatic officials from embassies in Western countries to save money.

Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Mutassem Bilbeisi said the move was designed to cut a projected budget deficit of \$299.5 million this year by \$5 million. Jordan has a foreign debt of \$8.3 billion.

Bilbeisi told the Associated Press that the recall action was effective immediately and the embassy officials should return to Jordan before the end of June.

He said the decision would not affect embassy staff working in Arab countries.

Bilbeisi said the recall covers 22 counsellors and four cultural, four labour, two press, one health and seven commercial attaches. He did not say which embassies would be affected.

## MIDEAST BRIEFS

**Jerusalem panel to meet next Friday:** The Organization of Islamic Conference announced Monday that its Jerusalem committee will hold an emergency meeting Friday in Morocco to discuss the recent US Senate resolution recognizing a unified Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

The meeting of the Al Qods (Jerusalem) Committee, will be attended by more than a dozen Islamic foreign ministers, said the statement from the OIC headquarters in Jeddah.

It will be held in Rabat under its chairman, King Hassan II of Morocco. (AP)

**Postpone municipal elections call:** Tunisian party leaders proposed Monday postponing municipal elections for up to six months to give themselves more time to agree on a new voting system.

The elections should take place before the end of May and the way they are run is seen as a test of the government's committee to multiparty democracy.

But politicians from five of the seven recognised parties, including the ruling Democratic Constitutional Union (RCD), said they favoured putting them off until they approve details of a new voting system with elements of proportional representation. (Reuter)

**Hashemi visit not hostage-related:** The visit to Lebanon late in March by Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani's brother was not related to the issue of the 18 Western hostages held by underground Shiite Muslim factions, a statement said Monday.

Mahmoud Hashemi's visit was for "humanitarian purposes and not linked to the hostages" said a statement by Hussein Mousavi one of the Shiite Lebanese leaders who met Rafsanjani's brother in Lebanon.

The conservative newspaper Ad Diyar, based in Christian east Beirut, had reported that Hashemi met in the eastern Bekaa Valley last week with Mousavi and leaders of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah. (AP)

**Eritrean rebels and Ethiopians meet:** Four Eritrean rebel groups and Ethiopian officials met Monday for North Yemeni-sponsored peace talks that officials hope will develop into an overall peace conference involving other factions to end Africa's longest war.

The meeting opened Sunday night at the Yemeni Foreign Ministry after the iftar with which Muslims break the day's fast in the holy month of Ramadan.

Both sides stressed their desire to end the guerrilla war with a lasting political settlement before going into closed session. (AP)

**Bomb kills a pro-Israeli militiaman:** A roadside bomb blast killed one pro-Israel militiaman and wounded two others in southern Lebanon Monday, security sources said.

The source said the bomb killed one south Lebanon army member and wounded two others near the village of Barashit, 9 miles (14 km) from the Israeli-Lebanon border.

Fighters of the "Lebanese Resistance Front" planted the explosive charge, the sources said.

The SLA-run "Voice of the South" radio station said an explosive charge went off under an SLA vehicle on the Barashit-Bell Yacoub road in the security enclave, killing one of its members and wounding two others. (AP)

**Morocco makes passport getting easier:** Morocco announced Monday new measures to make it easier for citizens to obtain passports.

Interior Minister Driss Basri told journalists that restrictions would only apply to people due in court or likely to offend public morals and damage the reputation of the state.

Although all Moroccans have the right to travel freely, in the past only people earning a certain income or with overseas work contracts and return air tickets tended to get passports.

Basri said all applications would be answered within one month and all citizens refused could appeal. Verdicts on appeals would be given within a month. (Reuter)

## US warns Afghan resistance over drug production and trafficking

ISLAMABAD, April 3, (UPI): The United States has warned Afghan resistance commanders it "cannot accept" a situation in which it is providing aid to the rebels while they are encouraging drug production and trafficking, a senior US official said yesterday.

Melvin Levitsky, US Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics Matters, also told a news conference that he found during talks with senior anti-narcotics officials in Islamabad that Pakistan has a "strong commitment" to stem the drug trade but it still faced a "whole range" of problems.

"What we need to do is to be more effective in stemming drug abuse... more effective in law enforcement, more effective in interdiction, in going after major heroin labs and harassing these vicious criminal organisations," he said.

The US official said about 25 per cent of the heroin that reaches the United States comes from the so-called "golden crescent" area that includes Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran, while another 50 per cent is produced in Southeast Asia.

In Afghanistan, some rebel groups have allegedly been involved in the cultivation of opium and the production

and trafficking of heroin. Clashes have reportedly occurred in some areas between rival groups for control of the trade.

The United States provides arms to the rebels, known as mujahedeen in their 11-year-old war against the pro-Soviet government in Kabul.

"What we don't support and what we have made very clear to Mujahedeen commanders is that they must stay out of drugs and that they must discourage production of drugs," Levitsky said.

"We cannot accept a situation where we are giving assistance to the muja-

hedeens and they are encouraging drug production and drug trafficking."

He said the current communist government in Afghanistan is not "legally certified" as co-operation with the United States to control the drugs trade.

"So if now there is a new government in Afghanistan that expresses the self-determination of the Afghan people and was then recognized by the United States, the first issue we would encounter is — can we certify that government as co-operating fully with the United States according to our law?"

"The point we have made to the muja-

hedeens is that if there is considerable evidence that there is no co-operation but support for drug trafficking and drug production we would not be able to assist that government of Afghanistan," Levitsky said.

Her said that the Bush administration in the past year has concentrated its anti-narcotics efforts against the influx of cocaine, which is produced mostly in Latin America.

"We feel we are setting a handle on that," he said. But the official said experts feared the cocaine problem may now be followed by a heroin epidemic.

election code violates constitutional guarantees of equal opportunity — and they want voting districts to be more proportional balance between numbers of voters and number of parliamentary seats. Then they want new elections.

An advisory panel of jurists attached to the seven-member constitutional court recommended in a non-binding opinion that the court uphold Khalid's objections to the election law. The seven-member tribunal, the ultimate arbiter of Egypt's basic law, is expected to rule by early June.

## Egypt is under a constitutional 'dilemma'

CAIRO, April 3, (AP): The constitutionality of Egypt's Parliament is under fire in a court challenge that could lead to elections by this summer, two years before they're due.

The accompanying political row is typical of what Egyptians face in a continuing struggle to work out the kinks in a still-imperfect democratic system.

Egypt has come a long way from the single-party dominance that prevailed for more than two decades after Gamal Abdel Nasser overthrew King Farouk in 1952.

Nasser's successor, Anwar Sadat, res-

tored the multi-party system in the late 1970s, and allowed publication of newspapers proclaiming the opposition parties' message — though Sadat became impatient with their criticism and periodically cracked down.

Hosni Mubarak, who then came to the presidency, has since given government opponents wide-ranging freedom to criticize. They have made full use of it.

Scathing attacks in opposition newspapers frequently lead to shouting matches with state-owned publications. The two-way mud-slinging often spills over onto the parliamentary floor, where

there have been opposition walkouts — and even a few scuffles.

The government considers the parliamentary and media fights a safety valve, to have the opposition "let off steam," as one official put it.

But Egypt's politics remain dominated by a strong presidency which practically monopolizes foreign policy, while in domestic affairs, he keeps close tabs on the prime minister and his cabinet.

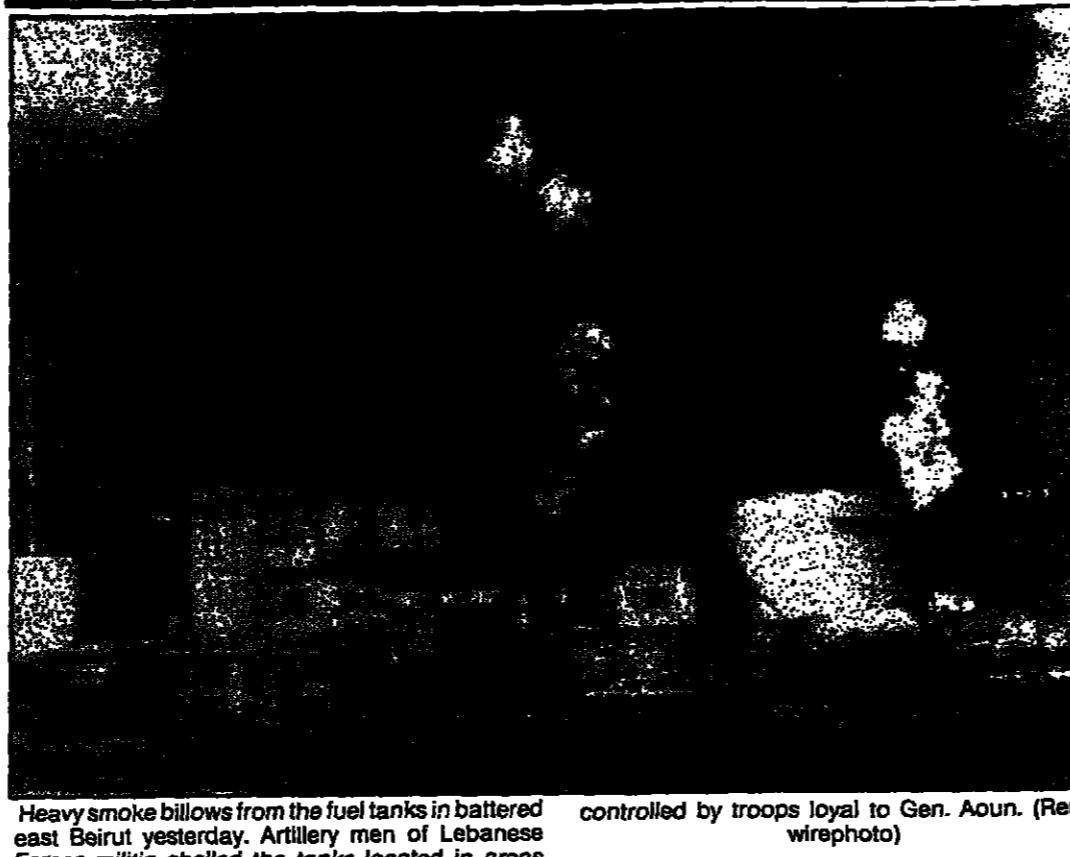
The administration's backbone is the National Democratic Party's 5-plus per cent majority in the 458-seat legislature, or People's Assembly. The party can

outvote the opposition anytime — though the opposition, with almost 100 seats, is the largest since republican Egypt began with Nasser's coup.

Khalid Khalid, 59, a lawyer registered as an independent, began the current political free-for-all with a suit in constitutional court, renewing an earlier challenge he had raised to an often-amended election law that dates from 1972, during the early Sadat years.

Khalid quickly found like-minded comrades within Egypt's five opposition parties.

They want the court to rule that the



Heavy smoke billows from the fuel tanks in battered east Beirut yesterday. Artillery men of Lebanese Forces militia shelled the tanks located in areas controlled by troops loyal to Gen. Aoun. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Aoun urges new pact

### British embassy suspends work

BEIRUT, April 3, (Reuters): General Michel Aoun, who rejected a 1989 Arab-brokered Lebanon peace plan, has urged Arab leaders to find a new pact that would satisfy all rival parties.

Official sources said yesterday Aoun, commander of half of Lebanon's 35,000-man army, has written to the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Algeria and to the Arab League about the pact.

The three states sponsored last year's peace agreement by Lebanese deputies to end 15 years of war. The accord, reached in the Saudi city of Taif, entrenched powers between the long-dominant Christian Maronite community and the Muslim majority.

But it failed to include a clear timetable for a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon, cited by Aoun as his main reason for rejecting it.

"I reiterate my government's readiness to fully cooperate with your committee's endeavours to achieve an understanding among the Lebanese parties and other sides concerned with solving the Lebanese crisis," said Aoun in the letters.

"I leave it to your good offices... to choose the right frame, which could be Taif-2 or any other frame to achieve dialogue, the results of which would be comprehensive, just and practical," he said.

Aoun launched an unsuccessful six-month "war of liberation" last year with the intention of driving some 40,000 Syrian troops from Lebanon after rejecting the Taif peace pact.

The general, appointed in 1988 as head of a military interim government after parliament failed

to find a successor to former president Amin Gemayel, says he is Lebanon's only legitimate leader.

He challenged the authority of Syrian-backed President Elias Hrawi who was elected in November last year as a result of the internationally-backed Taif agreement.

Meanwhile, rival Christian armies slug it out with artillery and rockets in snow-swept mountains northeast of Beirut on Monday as fires burned out of control in a deadlocked battle for control of the Christian enclave.

The snowfall blocked mountain roads and forced renegade Gen. Aoun's army troops and Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia to exchange artillery fire without launching ground offensives.

The Bush administration strongly believes that a solution of the Lebanese conflict must be dealt with "on its own merits" and must not be pegged on a solution of the Middle East problem.

The administration has also not changed its mind that Lebanese Christian leader Gen. Aoun has been "an obstacle to Lebanese unity, reconciliation and peace" and "his resistance has meant further tragedy for Lebanon."

• Christian militia chief Samir Geagea today recognised the authority of President Elias Hrawi in open defiance to Aoun.

Geagea also implicitly accepted an Arab-sponsored peace pact to end Lebanon's almost 15 years of civil war in an interview with the communist Voice of the People radio, saying it should open the way for a solution.

## Kahane faces sedition charges

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 3, (AP): US born Rabbi Meir Kahane went on trial in Jerusalem's district court yesterday on charges of sedition for calling Arabs a "cancer spreading in our midst" at a rally protesting a bloody attack on Israelis last year.

Defence lawyers called the trial test case for freedom of speech in Israel, and Kahane has won unexpected support from civil libertarians who argue the sedition law is too broad and vague.

Kahane, head of the anti-Arab Kahane movement, said he didn't regret his July 7 speech. "I admit to the words, and I would say them again at another rally," Kahane told the Associated Press outside the courtroom.

Only about 20 Kahane followers and journalists attended the trial. Kahane, wearing a black suit and black skull cap, sat quietly during the four-hour hearing, occasionally shaking hands with supporters and browsing through his appointment calendar.

The sedition law has been criticised by civil rights advocates, including the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

■ An Israeli court yesterday sentenced a Yugoslavian immigrant to three years in jail for supplying classified information to the PLO, Israel radio said.

## Chagall works in Israel

Occupied Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek returned from a weekend trip to Paris clutching five suitcases filled with 200 works of art by the late Marc Chagall.

The drawings, sketches and paintings by the Russian-born Jewish artist had been promised to the Israel museum by the artist's daughter, Ida, more than 20 years ago. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 3 Palestinian leftist parties plan to unite

AMMAN, April 3, (AP): A top Palestinian Liberation Organization official said yesterday three leftist Palestinian factions will unite.

"The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Palestinian Communist Party will unite in one leftist political party," said the official, who spoke on condition he not be identified.

He said that the project was partially prompted by recent events in the Soviet Union and East European countries "where the socialist bloc was completely diminished."

Referring to the liberalizing policies of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the PLO official said: "The proposed leftist party is considered a new Palestinian renaissance."

He said: "This new leftist party will strengthen the ranks of the different Palestinian factions in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip."

The PLO official said the plan was proposed by the Palestinian Communist Party recently and it has received "preliminary approval."

The leftist PFLP led by Dr. George Habash and the DFLP are the second and third largest groups in the PLO after Chairman Yasser Arafat's centrist Fatah faction, which controls an estimated 75 percent of the PLO's membership and men under arms.

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Energy file

Don't rely only on oil: Otaiba

ABU DHABI, April 3. (Opec): United Arab Emirates Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Mana Saeed Otaiba has called for his country to rationalise oil production so that reserves will last longer.

The minister's appeal is made in a 1,800-page book entitled "Oil and the UAE's Economy" published recently.

"We should utilise oil as the main financier of economic and social development in the UAE and other producers," he asserts.

"This should prompt us to enter all stages of petroleum industries and produce at levels which only meet demand so that we will live longer," he adds.

Otaiba maintains that a percentage of oil revenues, "say around 20 per cent" should be added to the state's financial reserves.

The minister stresses the importance of co-operation and integration among Arab and Gulf states to face international and regional changes.

He also urges the creation of other sources of national income to avert the danger of reliance on oil.

The publication also covers essential and structural developments in the oil industry at local and international level.

"These developments triggered new changes in global oil relations, including co-operation between Opec and independent oil producers for the sake of stability of the market," he points out.

Otaiba declares that a boost in international ties coupled with an "improved global atmosphere" had made a positive impact on the oil sector.

■ An oil drilling company from the United Arab Emirates will explore for crude in South Yemen, according to its Director General Mohammad Bin Saleh.

He disclosed that his company, Bin Ham, which is based in Abu Dhabi had acquired the rights to explore for oil in an area covering 14,000 sq. km. in South Yemen's north San'a block.

■ Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Abdul-Rahim Al-Chalabi left for Tokyo today for a four-day official visit to seek Japanese funds to boost Iraq's oil production capacity, the official Iraqi news agency (INA) reported.

■ It quoted Chalabi as saying he would have talks with officials and businessmen on Japanese investment in the expansion of Iraq's oil production capacity and other oil projects.

■ Egypt announced yesterday new crude-oil export prices reflecting two consecutive cuts totalling \$1.50 dollars a barrel for most grades since mid-March.

An Oil Ministry spokesman also disclosed the export price of a fifth blend, Ras Al-Bihar and Khalij Al Zeit, which he said is superior quality to the old, top-grade Gulf of Suez.

The price cuts were the fourth and fifth in a row this year.

■ Saudi Arabia has decided to reduce prices of liquified petroleum gas exported to Japan by 10.3 per cent for April, according to a Japanese paper today.

■ The Nihon Keizai said the prices will thus be \$109.3 per tonne of propane gas and \$107.53 per tonne of butane gas.

■ Qatar is to invite tenders soon for the overhaul of the country's three offshore oilfields, in a bid to extend their working life by another 30 years, the "Gulf Times" newspaper has reported in Doha.

■ Ministers of mineral resources and oil in the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) will hold their first meeting in Amman later this month to discuss co-operation, the state-run news Agency Petra said yesterday.

■ It said the ministers of Egypt, North Yemen, Iraq and Jordan would open their conference on April 23. The ACC was founded in February 1989.

■ Qatar will cut crude output by around 70,000 barrels per day (BPD) in September for a major overhaul of its three ageing offshore oil platforms Gulf industry sources said today.

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# US 'getting serious' about energy future

Watkins calls for re-examination of strategy

WASHINGTON, April 3. (AP): Secretary of Energy James D. Watkins said yesterday the US government is "getting very serious" about conservation and the environment as it calls for re-examination of dozens of ideas for stabilising the nation's energy future.

Watkins released a 230-page interim report on a proposed energy strategy, listing possibilities that include strict conservation requirements and government-financed development of renewable

alternative fuels, such as solar power or hydroelectric power.

Such steps would be contrary to policies of former president Ronald Reagan, who favoured leaving energy issues to the marketplace and advocated doing away with the energy department.

Watkins' "interim report: national energy strategy" signals Bush's determination to "get the best public dialogue going in the history of energy policy," said Deputy Secretary W. Henson Moore.



Executives pray

Executives of Tokyo stock companies offer prayers to steady the volatile markets at Kabuto Shrine near the Tokyo Stock Exchange yesterday. Tokyo stocks bounced back to close broadly higher in a seesaw day of moderate trade after plunging 6.6 per cent on Monday. (Heuter wirephoto) Refer to page 11.

## Call for co-operation

Enough oil for 50 years

## Opec pledge

VIENNA, April 3. (Kuna): Opec member countries are in a position to offer all the oil that the world needs in the next 50 years from sources that are comparatively easy to access and regulate, it was reported yesterday.

"Why take needless risks with the environment for the sake of the spurious concept of energy independence when we could be cementing the bonds of co-operation and strengthening security of supply?" asks an editorial in the March edition of the Opec "Bulletin."

The publication, released by the organisation's secretariat in the Austrian capital, stresses that energy consumption and the environment are inseparably bound together."

It affirms that for eons and with the knowledge that environmental studies were gradually building up today, "we have to entertain a thousand possibilities before we make decisions that could result in irrevocable change."

The editorial states that in recent remarks made by Opec Secretary-General Dr Subroto, he had emphasised the fact that wrong decisions, taken on the basis of false, incomplete or distorted information, could prove costly to society in the long-run.

"Even if we could be absolutely sure that we had gathered all the relevant facts, determined all the critical parameters and tested every alternative hypothesis, there would still be one reason why we should never be complacent — the human factor."

It observes that from Chernobyl to Prudhoe Bay, by way of Three Mile Island, a string of large-scale environmental disasters or near misses had at their root the human factor.

The publication concedes that no amount of central planning, foresight, resources or "just plain money" could eliminate the risk of mistakes being made, but it asks "isn't it tempting fate to go looking for trouble?"

No one, it asserts, would dream of building a nuclear plant in an earthquake zone, yet they could be found in the Soviet Union (Armenia) and the United States (California) "as large as life and twice as threatening."

Similarly, no one would imagine searching for oil in an area where its exploitation could only lead to mishap, yet in Alaska and the Soviet Union, precious wildlife reserves were being "hungrily eyed" by oil company geologists.

including Arab producers, would need large amounts of money to expand their production capacity to cope with the world demand for oil until the end of the century.

"Some oil observers have voiced concern about the source of necessary financing for expanding production capacity to meet the expected increase in demand between now and the end of the century and maintain a margin of flexibility," the bulletin said.

The Opec report said that oil-producing countries could rely on their own reserves to finance this expansion or on foreign funds as "capital always flows to that oil-producing countries,

the most secure and profitable investments."

"The real obstacle to expanding production capacity is uncertainty about how oil demand in the consuming countries will fare," it said. "Oil markets are still swayed heavily by transient factors and long-term consumption forecast are subject to constant revision."

The organization reported the oil reserves of Opec's eleven member states stand at 600 billion barrels, indicating Arab oil producers would continue to supply industrialized countries with oil needs "for many decades."

In previous meetings allocating quotas, Saudi Arabia has always insisted that its share of total Opec production not slip below 24 pc.

As a result, total output of the 13-nation group "looks set to touch the 24 million barrel-a-day mark in April," PIW said.

It said the Saudis are cutting prices — using

"a special new price mechanism" — to maintain its shape of the fiercely competitive Mediterranean markets.

In an article it said was based on sources directly concerned with production policy of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, PIW said Saudi Arabia is planning to raise production up to 300,000 barrels a day this month.

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Efficiency, quality drive

## KFTCIC looks West

By Jadranka Porter  
Arab Times staff

KFTCIC, the largest investment house in Kuwait, is seeking to raise its professional standards as it focuses on the Western markets and watches for opportunities in Eastern Europe.

The company has appointed a consulting firm to devise a performance measurement system it plans to introduce within this year. KFTCIC general manager Yousef Al Hassawi has said.

This means the staff will work against set criteria that will be used to evaluate their performance.

The move is expected to raise the competitive spirit by rewarding high performers. More importantly, it will enable the management to get rid of the deadwood.

"Everyone will be given a chance. Those who perform well will not have to wait for a bonus until the end of the year," Hassawi said of the new scheme.

The size of the bonus will be determined by company's profits and the employee's performance. Those who do not reach a minimum standard will be fired and the company will not be partial to Kuwaitis, Hassawi insisted.

In an earlier move to streamline its operation the company turned its departments into profit centres, with each unit expected to generate enough income to cover its costs and make a profit.

KFTCIC (Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company) has a staff of 320 with 90 Kuwaitis. Eighty-five per cent of its executives are Kuwaitis.

In the past the company recruited the nationals without restraint. Many were graduate or undergraduate students who were sent for instruction abroad or were given on-the-job training. But over the years the management has found it difficult to motivate them.

"We gave them special attention and encouragement including pay raises and promotion. We treated them carefully. And still no Kuwaiti

moves to work in the back office, which is very important for our business," said Hassawi.

The management is currently more selective in hiring the Kuwaitis, but it is the firing that poses a greater problem.

Hassawi admits that dismissing a Kuwaiti has always been a sensitive issue but says he is convinced that the new evaluation of employees' work will help the company ease out the non-performers.

The focus on efficiency comes as the company, which largely concentrates on overseas portfolio management, faces intense competition from a multitude of foreign banks and investment houses.

"The whole world is in competition with us in fund management," Hassawi said.

The worldly-wise Kuwaiti investors, although comfortable in dealing with local firms would not entrust their funds to a company solely on the grounds that it is Kuwaiti. They keep the KFTCIC on its toes by continuously measuring its performance against that of the overseas institutions. "Ninety-nine per cent of our clients also have portfolios with foreign banks which enables them to compare our results with theirs. This is why we have to give them special service," explains Hassawi.

The drive towards greater efficiency and better management was in part the result of some painful lessons learnt in the 1980s.

KFTCIC, which is 99.2 per

cent government owned and one of the oldest investment houses in Kuwait, fell on hard times when its assets plunged after the Manakh stock market crash. As if that was not enough trouble the company's loans to the Third World countries went sour. With all of its hidden reserves sapped it restructured its capital twice, in 1985 and 1987, and after a capital injection of KD100 million by the Kuwait Investment Authority it made a small profit in 1988. It sold its Latin American debt at 51 per cent in 1987, a good and timely ride, says Hassawi, as its current price is just over 20 per cent.

The company also swapped its direct investments in the Third World countries and turned its attention to the West in a move that was more than merely geographical shift.

These investments, mostly yielding poor returns were taken over by Kuwait Real Estate and Investment Consortium. KFTCIC instead began concentrating its efforts on Western Europe, North America and the Far East where it has been particularly successful in securities portfolio management.

In Europe the company is increasingly looking eastwards although Hassawi says it is too early to make commitments. However KFTCIC hopes that its joint venture with West Germany's Berliner Bank will help it make inroads into the Eastern Europe after the unification of two Germanys. The company is presently considering two other schemes with a similar purpose in mind, but so far these remain a business secret.

Moves to improve efficiency will also stand KFTCIC in good stead in the event of mergers in Kuwait's banking sector. Hassawi, who favours the idea, insists that the sector needs a "clean up" before mergers are put into action. "They have to start healthy and that will take time," he said. He said KFTCIC views a merger with a commercial bank as beneficial but would not consider merging with another investment company.

## Business Briefs

### Private investment

BAGHDAD, April 3. (AP): Iraqi businessmen invested nearly 4 billion dinars (\$3 million) in projects since the government launched a privatisation programme in 1987, the Trade Ministry said yesterday.

The director of the companies registration department said that more than 692 million dinars (about \$2.1 billion) was invested last year in new agricultural, industrial and services projects.

The official, who was not named, said 767 new companies were set up in 1989 after the government eased restrictions to encourage the private sector to invest in the economy.

### Bank profits

BAHRAM, April 3. (Reuter): Masraf Aly Al Islami of Bahrain, one of the island's two offshore Islamic banks, said yesterday its net profit for calendar 1989 rose 16 per cent to \$5.03 million.

The bank, which is a subsidiary of the Bahamas-based Dar Al Mal Al Islami group, said in a statement its income after paying profits on customers' investments leaped 38.5 per cent to \$13.5 million.

Assets grew by 26 per cent to \$93.4 million in 1989.

### Saudi standards

WASHINGTON, April 3. (Kuna): In an effort to bring consistency in business transactions, a US-Arab trade group and a US Commerce Department branch have agreed to develop more consistent standards for Saudi Arabia, the Commerce Department announced.

The standards request was initially made by the kingdom, according to commerce officials.

Under the terms of the joint effort, the department's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the private American-Saudi Business Roundtable Inc. would provide assistance on standards to the Saudi Arabia specifications and Standards Organisation (SASO).

### Short dates active

KUWAIT, April 3. (Reuter): Short dates were active on the Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market, dealers said.

## Kuwaiti dinar trading steady

GENEVA, April 3. (Kuna): At the start of foreign exchange trading in Switzerland today, one Kuwaiti dinar was trading at

# Japan, US in trade talks

WASHINGTON, April 3. (AP): Japanese negotiators, professing new willingness to compromise on US demands for economic reform, began pivotal talks yesterday aimed at reducing rising trade frictions between the two economic superpowers.

President George Bush, who received an early-morning call from Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, said he was optimistic that the latest round of discussions will produce results.

"I had a very fruitful conversation with the prime minister of Japan this morning and we will see. But I must say I am encouraged by recent progress," Bush told reporters in Atlanta, Georgia.

The administration last July launched the talks, known as the Structural Impediments Initiative, aimed at addressing traditional barriers in Japan that act against the sale of foreign products and services in Japan.

The discussions are intended to address economic obstacles in both countries that are seen as primary reasons for America's \$49-billion trade deficit with the Japanese, almost half of last year's total deficit.

Three earlier rounds of discussions had produced little progress, but then Bush and Kaifu met a hastily arranged summit a month ago in California. Kaifu at that time pledged to make economic reforms a top priority.

**Competition**  
The administration has argued that the proposed changes to scrap exclusionary business practices and open Japan to more foreign competition would not only benefit Americans by lowering the trade deficit but would also benefit the Japanese, who currently pay some of the highest prices in the world for consumer goods.

Kaifu told Bush yesterday that he was dispatching two high-level emissaries, former Japanese ambassador Nobuo Matsunaga and Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, to Washington to express his personal commitment to resolving the dispute.

Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters that the Japanese were bringing a new set of proposals for discussion. He said the Japanese initiatives were being taken to fight off rising protectionist pressures and to benefit Japanese consumers.

Watanabe refused to discuss details of the Japanese package. However, there were published reports that Japanese negotiators will propose liberalizing Japanese law to make it easier for large retail stores likely to carry imported products to open in Japan.

US retailers face delays of up to 10 years because of the current law.

The Japanese negotiators also reportedly will set forth a package of increased penalties for violations of anti-monopoly laws and lay out plans for increased spending on public works projects, also a demand of US negotiators.

Watanabe said the Japanese actions were not being taken under threat of US retaliation. He said the Japanese side felt it was important to show they had made the "utmost effort" to resolve the disputes.

The Bush administration is reviewing barriers against US products with a congressional imposed deadline on April 30 to target countries with the most onerous barriers for intensive negotiations.

The Japanese government, which was targeted last year, hopes to avoid being singled out again, although members of Congress are already calling for Japan to be cited, regardless of the outcome of the current discussions.

Last year, the Japanese were targeted for alleged barriers against US-made supercomputers, satellites and wood products. In recent days, negotiators have reached agreements in principle to resolve the satellite and supercomputer issues and will meet again later this month in an effort to expand the Japanese market for sales of US lumber.

Washington is reporting progress in tough talks aimed at reforming Japan's economic structure, but economists say any changes that result are likely at first to benefit Japanese consumers more than American exporters.

The only thing the structural impediments discussions will do is make Japan more competitive, so if you're not here on the ground floor, it will make it more difficult," said Paul Summerville, chief economist at Jardine Fleming (Securities) Ltd.

# EEC proposes plan to help Gatt fight trade pirates

GENEVA, April 3. (AP): The European Economic Community yesterday submitted a detailed proposal to trade negotiators for new international rules to protect rights to intellectual property such as patents, copyright and trademarks.

The text, the most comprehensive tabled to date in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks, provides for the enforcement of the proposed regulations for more stringent rules within the forum of Gatt.

However, some developing countries led by India have argued that ready access to known-how is essential to their development and that it should not be controlled

December at the end of a four-year round of negotiations.

While the so-called Uruguay round talks on areas such as agriculture and textiles are designed to liberalise global commerce, any agreement on intellectual property is likely to increase protection.

The United States, the 12-nation European bloc and Japan have pressed for national legislation, including compensation for victims of infringements.

Now, according to intellectual property rights and 14 other sectors of world trade are due to be signed by Gatt's 96 members in

through Gatt.

But Peter Carl Mogens, an EEC negotiator, argued that better protection of patents would encourage voluntary transfer of technology to the Third World by alleviating patent owners' fears about infringements of their rights.

Mogens said he was confident of support for the proposal from some developing countries. He said the provisions reflected recent or planned revisions to domestic law in Mexico and certain South East Asian countries.

Thailand, the Philippines and Malaysia are among those who have increased protection to intellectual property as a result of threats of unilateral retaliation from the United States.

The EEC proposal would rule out any such unilateral action.

The draft, to be discussed by negotiators at Gatt's headquarters in Geneva, covers the main seven intellectual property areas: Copyright, trademarks, geographical indications, patents, semi-conductors, trade secrets and industrial designs.

It lays down minimum standards for the protection of copyright, including the rights of authors, performers and broadcast organisations. It fixes the term of protection

to 25-50 years.

It would set a 10-year protection period for trademarks and 20 years for patents.

Under the EEC proposal all Gatt member states would comply with existing provisions of two intellectual property conventions administered by world intellectual property organisation (Wipo) and with additional commitments set out in the community next.

These new commitments included enforcement procedures that would allow customs authorities to seize, forfeit and destroy goods that infringed protection rules, and imposition of fines or prison sentences on

trade pirates.

Disputes would be submitted to existing Gatt procedures for resolving differences between trading partners, and countries would undertake not to resort to unilateral reprisals against a suspected offending state.

Delegated sources said this provision would prevent such action as the primitive tariffs the United States imposed in 1986 on imports from Brazil in retaliation for what Washington said was misappropriation of US pharmaceutical patents.

At present there are few substantive international agreements to protect patents, Mogens said.



Stock dealers emerge from the Tokyo Stock Exchange for lunch time after the morning session on Tuesday. Tokyo share prices ended easier at mid-day after a morning tug-of-war between sellers and bargain hunters. The 225-share Nikkei index was down 77.19 points, or 0.28 percent at 27,924.88. (Reuter/Photo)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Interest rates reduced:** The Bank of France, taking advantage of a low inflation rate and the strength of the franc, reduced its key intervention rate by one quarter of a percentage point Monday to 9.75 per cent from 10 per cent.

The Central Bank said in a statement that the decision to lower the key interest rate had been motivated "by the improvement registered by prices during the past few months and the good standing of the franc in the exchange markets."

The French franc has strengthened in recent weeks against major foreign currencies, with the rate against the Deutschmark dropping to 3,361.2 francs per mark Monday from 3,410 marks in January. (UPI)

**'Japanese make better cars':** The Japanese make better cars, the chairman of Ford Motor Co. says.

"If you look at the Japanese, I think we're equal to some and not as good as the best," Harold Poling told the Detroit News in a story published Sunday. "Our objective is to get there."

Poling said operational costs, not technology, put the big three automakers at a disadvantage.

"Can we get plants in the United States to produce vehicles as inexpensively as the Japanese do? You bet," he said. "But that requires shutting down our plants and starting from scratch. We can't do that." (AP)

**Salomon brothers in E. Berlin:** Salomon Brothers, the international investment bank, announced Monday it plans to open a representative office in East Berlin.

The office will be staffed by German professionals from Salomon Brothers' West German subsidiary, Salomon Brothers AG, Frankfurt, the announcement said.

The bank said a presence in East Berlin would enable it to serve German and international clients who have an interest in doing business in East Germany.

The move became possible after the East German government opened the Berlin Wall last fall, and the East German elections in March paved the way toward a market-oriented economy. (Kuna)

**Regional headquarters:** More than half Hong Kong's multinational corporations are considering shifting their regional headquarters from the troubled British colony, and Singapore heads the list of alternatives according to a survey released Monday.

Some 62 per cent of the 50 firms polled by Business International said they would decide whether to relocate within two or three years. More than 32 per cent said chronic staff shortages and turnovers were major operating problems and would affect their decision.

Hong Kong reverts to China in 1997 at the expiration of Britain's 99-year lease on the prosperous colony. (UPI)

**New East German bank opens:** A new East German bank opened for business on Monday, aiming to support enterprise in the country's fledgling democracy after 40 years of communist rule.

Deutsche Kreditbank AG, with some 9,000 employees and branches across East Germany, is a key part of plans by the East German authorities to help make the transition to a market economy by encouraging business long smothered by state.

Bank board chairman Edgar Most told the official ADN news agency that the first figures on new accounts opened, loans made and the bank funds would be published later this month. (Reuter)

**Nissan in Europe:** Nissan Motor Co. said Tuesday its subsidiaries responsible for co-ordinating the company's overall activities in North America and Europe have started operations.

The Japanese-based company said Nissan Europe NV in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, will co-ordinate vehicle and forklift production, marketing and distribution and other activities by its subsidiaries located in the exchange markets."

The company said Nissan Europe, established in April last year, will initially be responsible for co-ordinating sales activities in the European market. It will gradually be integrated into the centre for managing product development, manufacturing and sales, the company said. (UPI)

**'Invisible workforce':** Women are the world's invisible workforce, the United Nations' International Labour Organisation said in a report published on Monday.

Millions of working women are simply ignored in labour statistics, giving a distorted view of reality and leading to misguided economic policies or even the neglect of women in development strategies, the report said.

The legions of "invisible" women can be found everywhere from Third World agriculture to family businesses in industrial nations such as Britain and France, it added. (Reuter)

**Polish unemployment soars:** The number of Poles without work climbed to more than a quarter of a million in March from less than 10,000 at the start of the year, official figures released on Monday showed.

A Labour Ministry spokesman said 266,572 people were registered as jobless on March 30, up from 152,190 at the end of February.

Unemployment, theoretically non-existent under the previous communist administration which collapsed last year, has shot up from 9,600 since Jan 1 when the new Solidarity-led government introduced tough austerity measures to curb hyperinflation and create a market economy. (Reuter)

**Bulgaria devalues currency:** The embattled communist government sharply devalued the Bulgarian leva against the US dollar on Monday, the state news agency said, bringing it in line with black market rates.

The TBA news agency also said the Communist Party newspaper has changed its name, and informed sources said communists plan to rename their party Tuesday in an apparent effort to distance themselves from their hardline past.

The state news agency BTA said Bulgarians travelling abroad will have to pay up to four times more for US dollars or other convertible currencies, though it gave no details about the exchange rate of other Western currencies. (AP)

**Marubeni obtains stake:** Major Japanese trading firm Marubeni Corp. reported it has acquired 21.3 per cent equity in ICM Farm Products Pty Ltd of Melbourne, Australia, for 7.75 million Australian dollars.

The company said the acquisition is aimed at strengthening ties with the Australian firm from which the company has been importing high-grade beef since 1985.

ICM Farm Products is the beef production division of the Australian Farm Products Business Group, ICM Australia, the company said.

The company said it will expand imports of grain-fed, high-grade beef from the Australian partner. (UPI)



## Kuwait's fourth annual raft race

Under the patronage of the Capital Governor Sheikh Jaber Al Abdulla Al Jaber Al Sabah, Messilah Beach Hotel will hold its annual raft race for the 4th consecutive year on Friday May 11, 1990.

The event is sponsored for the second running year by the Kuwaiti Danish Dairy Company K.D.D. and promoted by Winston Cigarettes and Jashanmal & Partners Ltd.

Rival teams are busy preparing rafts and planning tactics for the different category of races including:-

1. Welded Category — Governor's Trophy a) Men's b) Ladies' c) Mixed;  
2. Wood & Rope Category — Messilah Beach Hotel Trophy a) MBH b)  
Best Constructed c) Plate Competition: 3. Carnival Category a) Winston Best Constructed Trophy b) Jashanmal Best Dressed Crew Trophy c) Best Carnival Overall

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

**Bits 'n' Pieces**  
An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.

## SOCIAL

## Hyderabad

The Committee for Celebrations of 400-year Anniversary of Hyderabad (DECCEN) invites essays in either Urdu, Telugu or English languages in not less than 1000 words on one of the following topics: 1. Quil Qutub Shah — the Architect of Hyderabad; 2. Contribution of Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan towards modern Hyderabad; 3. Hyderabad City as I saw her (for school students only).

The competition is open to all present and former Hyderabadi and their children residing in Kuwait.

A panel of judges will judge the first, second and third prize winning entries, and the prizes and citations will be distributed before the audience at 400-year anniversary celebrations to be held sometime in May 1990.

All entries must be neatly written or typed on A4 size paper in double space, and reach the committee on or before April 30, 1990 and addressed to the Convenor Literary Committee, PO Box 23343, Safat, 13094, Kuwait. No entry fee is charged.

## Ladies International League

LIL'Summer Bazaar is now being held at the Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel in the exhibition hall on Friday, May 11 from 10 am to 6 pm. All inquiries contact Cecilia or 3434946 or Barbara on 5325131.

## PAC's Silver Jubilee

THE organising committee of the Pakistan Arts Circle will celebrate PAC's Silver Jubilee on Thursday, the 27th April, 1990 at 9 pm. The programme will include variety of programme and "Sham-e-Ghazal." Our earlier artist will present his wonderful performance, and is being invited from Pakistan.

Reservations are open to all families. All are kindly requested to book their seats well before 15th April, 1990. For more information contact 4716258.

## Summer Affair '90

THE Weekend Club will host their traditional "Summer Affair" on the first day of Eid Al Fit (April 26) at the Regency Palace Hotel. Watch or participate in the selection and crowning of the 1990 Summer Queen, join in a Jive Contest, watch a scintillating display of "Lambada" or simply let your feet loose to the music of Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers. Gala buffet, loads of prizes and most important have a good time. For reservations call 4315425 (Julio), 5741380 or 4890566.

## Saligocars

CALLING all Saligocars... to respond to the call for a social gathering on May 25 at Ramada Al Salam, at 11.30 am. For details contact the following: Justin Fernandes on Tel. No. 2406936 (Res), Alo Carvalho, 2411442 (Res), 246121, America Remedios, Res. 3983348 and Paul D'Cruz; Res. 2444729, Tony Cordeiro off, 2415401, Res. 2412337.

## Quran Khawan

A meeting was held at the residence of Nazir Dogar under the Chairmanship of Dr Riaz Ahmed Mahesar, president Pakistan People's Club, regarding the observance of 11 death anniversary of former prime minister and chairman Zulfikar Ali Bhutto on April 4.

The meeting was attended by all central executive committee members. It was decided to hold Quran Khawan at the residence of Haji Qamar at 4 pm on April 4 1990. All members are invited.

## Rose Foms' drama

MAY 10-11: Expatriates Club proudly announces that God's celebrated king of century shows Rose Foms, and his sixteen member troupe, will present at the Granada Cinema hall, Kiteian, his premier release in Kuwait "Xinx" (Broken Glass) and "Beiman Tum" (You Ungrateful) which has already crossed the hundred plus mark in Goa. More details later.

## Holy Week 1990

Holy Family Cathedral — Palm and Passion Sunday: 8th April — 7.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 3.25 pm, Holy Mass (Konkani); 4.30 pm, Holy Mass (Konkani); 5.45 pm, Holy Mass (English); 7.55 pm, Holy Mass (English).

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday of the Holy Week: 9th, 10th, 11th April — 7.15 am, Holy Mass (English); 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm, Confession; 6.30 pm, Holy Mass (English); 7.00, Holy Mass & Retreat (Malayalam — in big hall).

Maudy Thursday: 12th April — 7.00 am, Concelebrated Mass of Chrism (English); 4.00 pm, Holy Mass (Konkani); 5.30 pm, Solemn Holy Mass of the Lord's Supper (English); 9.00 pm, Adoration (English — in the big hall).

Good Friday: 13th April (Day of fast and abstinence) — 7.00 am, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Malayalam); 9.00 am, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English); 2.30 pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Konkani); 4.00 pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English); 5.30 pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion (English).

Holy Saturday: 14th April — 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm Confessions; 8.00 pm, Easter Vigil Mass (English).

Easter Sunday: 15th April — 7.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 9.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 10.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 11.00 am, Holy Mass (English); 11.30 am, Holy Mass (French in big hall); 12.00 noon, Holy Mass (English); 4.00 pm, Holy Mass (Konkani); 5.00 pm, Holy Mass (English); 6.00 pm, Holy Mass (English); 7.00 pm, Holy Mass (Malayalam in big hall).

## Indian Cuisine Centre

Indian art of fancied lac bangles and design helmets work comes live at the finest Indian cuisine centre of Kuwait at the Maharaja Palace Restaurant.

Come savour the delicacies whilst giving your lady a gift to cherish. For more information contact 2406150

## British Council

The British Council working hours during the Holy month of Ramadan: General office — Saturday to Wednesday — 7.30 to 14.00; Library — Saturday to Wednesday — 9.00 to 12.30, 16.00 to 19.00; Thursday: 9.00 to 1.20.

## Approb essay competition

ASSOCIATION of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is holding an essay competition on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Pakistan Resolution.

Pakistani students in the age group of between 12-14 (juniors) and 15-18 (seniors) are invited to write their essays on the topic "My role in building a better Pakistan." The essays between 1000 and 1500 words, in Urdu or English, should be sent by 15th of April.

Four prizes of KD100 each (2 each for Urdu and English) will be awarded to the best articles in each group with other consolation prizes for deserving participants.

The panel of judges is headed by Dr M.I. Suleem, Dr Ali Jaffrey and Abdus Sattar Ghazali. For further details, contact: Tel. Approb, 3425315. Fax: 5323751.

## Daniella Dhow Trip

Daniella invites all Danes to go on a dhow trip on Friday, May 4. For registration please call Jytte on Tel: 2449610 before April 22.

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Events

## CINEMA

Al Andulus  
Street Justice  
Al Salmiyah  
Malone  
Al Hamra  
Hell on the Battle Ground  
Drive-in  
Arabic film  
Al Firdous  
Nigahen  
Fahsheel Open  
Jyoti Burjawaala

Fahsheel  
Arabic film  
Al Jabra  
Red Scorpion  
Granada  
Arabic film  
Sulabikhat  
Raiders of Paradise  
Jleeb  
Feds  
Ahmadi Drive-in  
Arabic film

## PRAYERS

Imsak 4.04  
Fajr 4.14  
Zuhr 11.51  
Asr 3.23  
Maghrib 6.09  
Isha 7.26

## INDIAN VIDEO ROUNDUP

## Nutty, eccentric, bizarre

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

"I'VE come to claim my wife," says Deepak to mother-in-law Rohini Hattangady. "What rubbish! You are not Jyoti's husband," she replies. Apparently, Deepak-Jyoti were married in childhood! And the mother-in-law is lying about Jyoti's marriage because Deepak belongs to the poor class — the divide between the rich and the poor in director Harnesh Malhotra's *Amiri Gharib*.

Rishi Kapoor and Neelam play Jyoti-Deepak.

Why is Malhotra propagating the idea of child marriage in the 21st century? Isn't child marriage outlawed? At least that's what we thought, until this film came along.

The child marriage syndrome is a mere sub-plot in the movie, that actually deals with the spoilt wife and children of an industrialist. To save his inheritance son Raj Babbar agrees to marry a girl of his father's choice. While Pooman Dhillon languishes in her palatial home, Babbar visits the "kothewali" Sona (dancing girl) played by Rekha. Sona has her heart set on the local hoodlum Heera (Jeetendra). By a contrived coincidence, Pooman happens to be Jeetendra's sister.

The patchwork quilt takes shape in the village, in the city and in the slums — finally ending in redemption in the fields of, maybe, Rajasthan. Values are skin deep; situations superficial and the characters theatrical; mixed with a dash of song, dance, melodrama and rhetoric we have *Amiri Gharib*, a futile exercise.

Atishbeaz  
Writer K.K. Shukla's story opens in Lahore

prison. I don't know why the prison is in Lahore. Shukla tells us that this is because it is pre-independent India — and the country will be divided. And Shera, along with his entire family, lands in Bombay. The big divide in Atishbeaz is between sanity and insanity. Nutty, eccentric characters and bizarre situations leave behind a blazing trail of dead bodies.

Imagine this situation: a dozen armed men carrying machine-guns firing away at one, defenceless man, who walks away with only a scrape on his shoulder. Such super-human traits abound in Shera's character, tailor-made for *Shotgun*, oh, sorry *Shatrughan Sinha*. His bloodshot eyes and his stately, exaggerated performance as the hardened criminal increases the trauma of Atishbeaz. To add fuel to fire, the undying friendship of Shera and "Jaan" Vijay (Aditya Pancholi) makes you sic! Vijay, after three-fourths of the film decides to reform. It seems that filmmakers have hit upon the idea of reforming criminals — recruit them as police officers.

Police officer Vijay is attacked by Shera's enemy, Tiger (Kiran Kumar) suffering a bullet wound. Incredibly, in the next frame, Vijay is up and about — fighting off an attack on Shera, who heroically lays down his life to save "Jaan," not to be reclaimed as property of Shera.

The romantic interest comes in the form of Anita Raj, who changes from an innocent last to a gangster's moll — all due to the trauma of partition, only to be reclaimed as property of Shera.

Forget Atishbeaz. It's nothing but trouble.

The above movies are by courtesy of Athari Video, Main St. Farwaniya, Tel: 4712900 and Canary Video, Fisheries Bldg, Sharq.

## Daniella Bowling

ALL Danes are invited to participate in the first ever Daniella Bowling Tournament on April 5, 1990, at 6 pm. For further information and registration please call Connie Tel: 3715637 or Marianne Tel: 3720137 before March 26.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMME

## KTV 1

1.00 The Opening and Holy Quran  
1.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)

1.30 World animals: Cultural programme  
2.00 Kabool adventures: Cartoon serial

2.30 Maa Al Sabreen: Historical serial (Part 9)

3.10 Human health: Cultural programme (Part 9)

3.35 Qabdhay Bahlool: Arabic serial (Part 9)

4.20 Rasaal Al Ekhla: Local programme

4.40 Rafat Al Hajan: Arabic serial (Part 9)

5.30 Hadeeth Deen: Religious programme, presented by Sheikh Metwali Al Sharawi

6.20 Baada Al Iftar: Religious feature

6.45 Mazenger Journey: Cartoon serial (Part 9)

7.00 Madeenat Al Ajayeb: Local children serial (Part 9)

7.45 Night chemists: Airlines and official advertisements

8.00 Maa Al Talab: Local programme prepared by the Ministry of Education School Activities Department

9.00 Johayna: Cultural programme (Part 9)

9.45 Sawalef Min Al Madhi: Local programme

10.00 News in Arabic

10.45 The family: Local serial (Part 9)

11.30 3 X 3: Local variety programme (Part 9)

12.15 Share Al Mawardi: Arabic serial (Part 9)

1.15 Sabah Al Kher YaJari: Arabic serial (Part 9)

1.30 News in brief

1.45 Magazine D'Actualite

## KTV 2

8.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran

8.10 Mickey and Donald: A cartoon series for children

8.30 Animals of Africa "Suricates": It looks like weasels or castors ... it lives in groups and digs its hiding hole near stems of trees.

9.00 News in English

9.30 Welcome Ramadan: A religious programme on the occasion of Holy Ramadan

9.45 Science Edition: The Canadian space programme for training astronauts and launching spacecrafts to outer space... Importance of grass for play grounds.. Artificial grass industry... Burns from sunbathing... Skin cancer...

10.15 Booker: "The Pump": Three criminals attack a police-woman, Booker's girl-friend.

11.30 Cine Club: Presented by Farouk Abdulaziz. Murder by Death: Starring: Peter Falk, Alec Guinness, Peter Sellers. Several detectives are invited to stay at the home of a wealthy recluse ... murder follows...

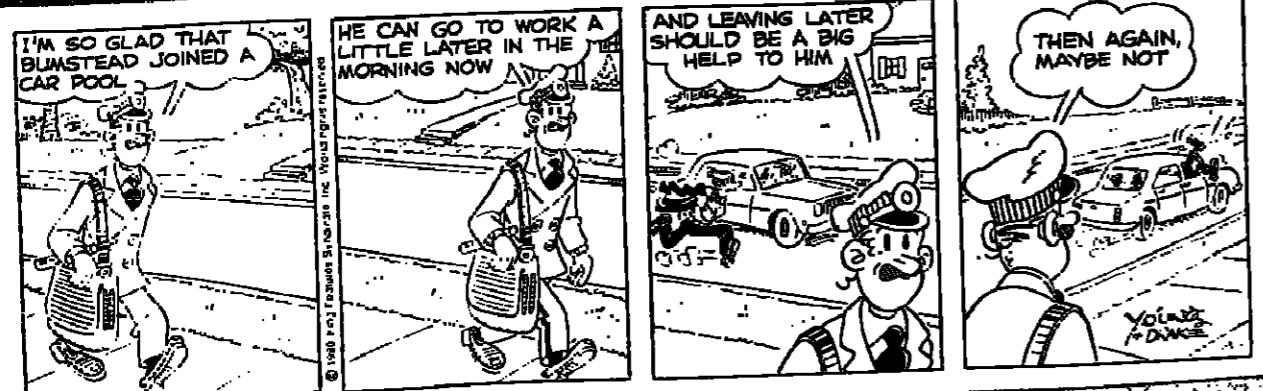
1.30 News in brief

1.45 Magazine D'Actualite

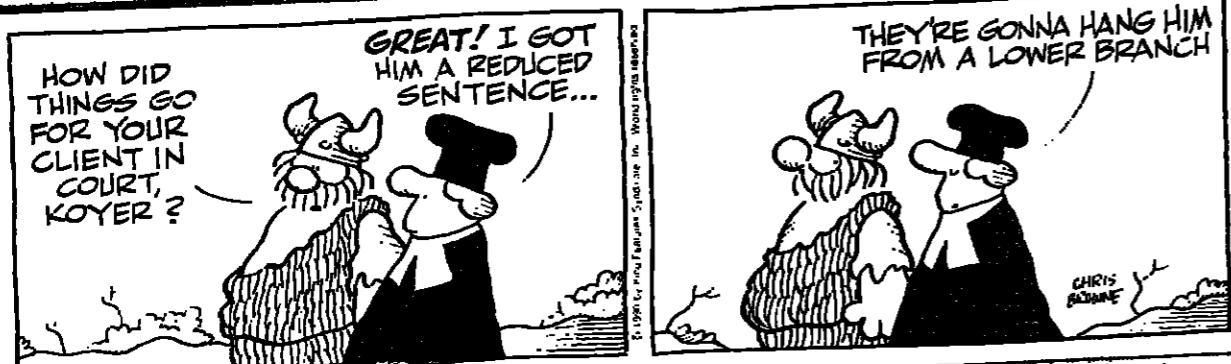
## Kala honours cultural figures

THE Kerala Art

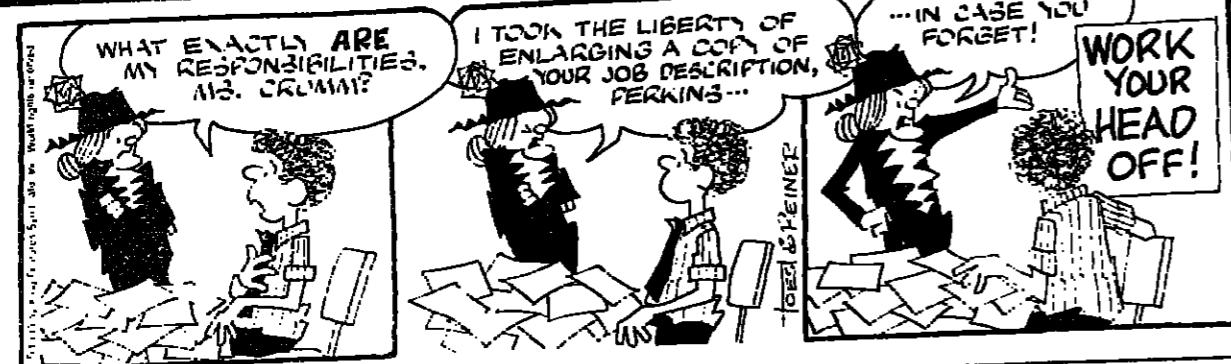
## BLONDIE — By Dean Young &amp; Stan Drake



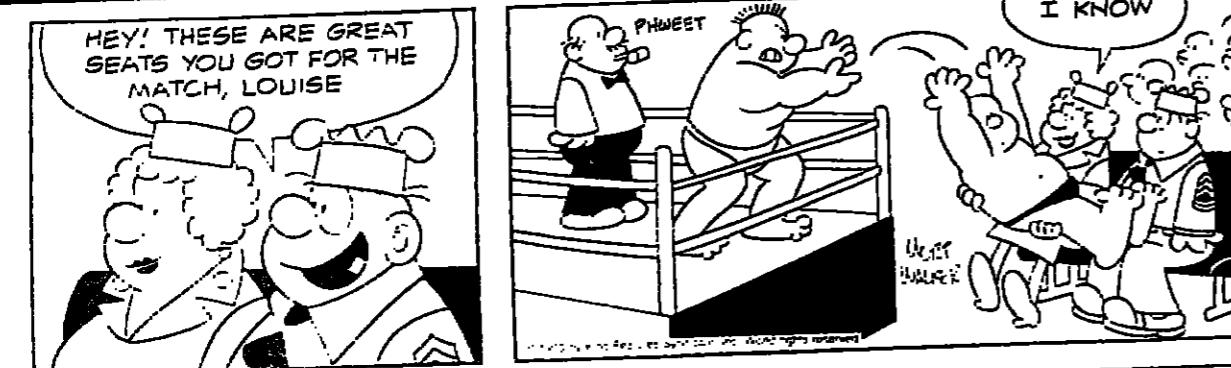
## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



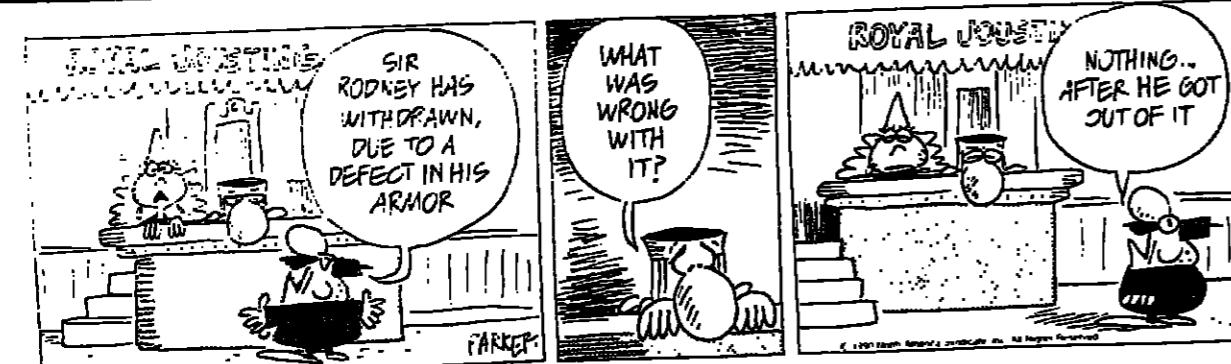
## AGATHA CRUMM — By Bill Hoest



## BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



## THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker &amp; Johnny Hart



## ANDY CAPP



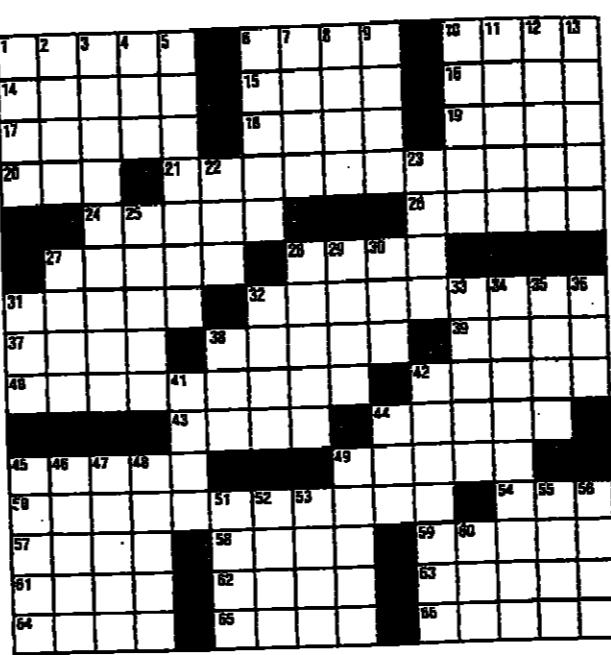
## B.C. — By Johnny Hart



## HE-MAN — By G. Forton &amp; J. Shull



## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND CHERYL SHARPE

FROM VIENNA, GOOD TECHNIQUE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♦ Q 3 2

♦ A 10

♦ A J 9 7 4

♦ A 9 6

WEST

♦ 9 6 4

♦ K 9 5 4 2

♦ 10

♦ Q 8 7 2

EAST

♦ 10 8 5

♦ J 7 6 3

♦ Q 6 3 2

♦ J 10

SOUTH

♦ A K J 7

♦ Q 8

♦ K 8 5

♦ K 5 4 3

The bidding:

South: 1 NT  
West: Pass  
3 ♦  
3 ♦  
6 ♦  
Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♦

Dear Tannah:

I have for years held Christian

Mari in great esteem, both as a play-

er and as a person. He played this

hand in the France-Sweden match

at the recent World Team

Championships.

North's jump to three clubs was a

transfer to three diamonds and four

no trump was a natural invitation to

slam. South judged his prime con-

trols and ruffing value justified ac-

ceptance of the try and he chose to

play in the suit in case a heart ruff

was needed. Mari won the spade lead in hand and was dismayed at the duplication in hearts. Since 12 tricks were there if the trump suit could be brought in without loss, declarer cashed the king and learned the bad news when West showed out on the second diamond. Dummy's jack was played and East shifted to the jack of clubs after taking the queen of diamonds. To preserve dummy's entry, declarer won in hand. Two more rounds of trumps extracted the enemy's fangs and declarer paused to review the situation.

To make the rest of the tricks he needed to find one of the defenders with at least four clubs and the king of hearts. If it were West, declarer could simply cash the last diamond and three spades, and discard from dummy whichever suit West retained.

But if East held the key cards, dummy would have to discard first. For the squeeze to operate on either defender, declarer cashed the ace of hearts—a Vienna Coup. Now when the winners were cashed dummy could come down to two clubs and whoever initially held four clubs and the king of hearts would have to concede. Voila!

As ever—

Omar

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LEITT	ADD	UP	PILAT
Binary star in	21	Altruistic	RILLE
Perseus	22	Sly look	36
50 Pamper	23	Have brunch	38
54 Taradiddle	24	Bikini part	41
57 Hipbones	25	British Conservative	42
58 Viva voce	26	Evils	44
59 Bete —	27	Light-Horse Harry et al.	45
61 Shipshape	28	10 — Gras	46
62 Created	29	Dostoyevsky's "The —"	47
63 She-bears: Lat.	30	12 Abalone feature	48
64 Being	31	13 Lock of hair	49
65 Aroma	32	22 — "Miniver"	50
66 Heavens	33	23 War god	51
	34	25 South American mountains	52
	35	27 Storage bin	53
	36	28 Devout	54
	37	29 Picnic pests	55
	38	30 Chap	56
	39	31 Resounding sound	57
	40	42 Enormous	58
	41	43 Map feature	59
	42	44 Secure	60
	43	45 Arabian chief	
	44	46 Some spies	
	45	47 Inventor Howe	
	46	48 Fill with joy	
	47	49 Austrian psychiatrist Alfred	
	48	50 Lake or singer	
	49	51 Toward the mouth	
	50	52 Pedestal part	
	51	53 Dies —	
	52	54 Birch or root	
	53	55 Scrap for Fido	

## YOUR STARS

Aries  
March 21 - April 19

There is no time to lose, so you should concentrate on dealing with essentials. You should however, not be in such a hurry that you miss important details. Show a little more consideration. Be sincere.

Cancer  
June 21 - July 22

Give others the benefit of any doubt. You will tend to indulge in daydreams and should try to restrain yourself. You would be wrong to say one thing and then do something quite inconsistent with it. Be tolerant.

Libra  
Sept 23 - Oct 22

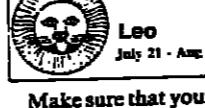
Allow others to express their opinions and take them into your account in your thinking. Now is a good time to take the initiative. An inclination to be extravagant will however be curbed. Be realistic.

Capricorn  
Dec 21 - Jan 19

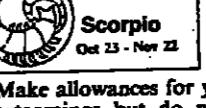
You will be able to make good progress in a personal matter. You will be able to draw the right conclusions only if you allow others to tell you what they think. Take a little more interest in your children. Be sensible.

Taurus  
April 21 - May 20

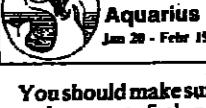
You have no good reason to lose faith in yourself. However, there is no good reason for an excess of confidence either. You should open your eyes and ears open. Be reliable.

Leo  
July 23 - Aug 22

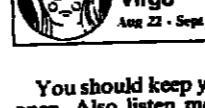
Make sure that your partner and children are not left out of account in your financial calculations. You are more liable to make mistakes and should make a special effort to avoid doing so. Once you have made up your mind stick to it. Be generous.

Scorpio  
Oct 23 - Nov 22

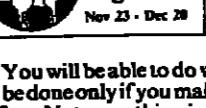
Make allowances for your own shortcomings but do not allow the magnitude of the task ahead of you. Keep an open mind towards change, but please, no change just for its own sake. Take plenty of rest and sufficient exercise, too.

Gemini  
May 21 - June 20

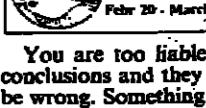
Do not expect to have everything your own way. You should not just hope for the best, if you do the worst could happen. Make sure you do not eat too many sweet things and drink only moderately. Be cordial.

Virgo  
Aug 23 - Sept 22

You should keep your eyes wide open. Also listen more closely to what others are saying. Use all the common sense you can summon and show a little more goodwill as well as making allowances. Be fair.

Sagittarius  
Nov 23 - Dec 22

You will be able to do what needs to be done only if you make an extra effort. Not everything is as it seems to be. Something you did not have high hopes about will turn out much better than expected. Take a little more care about your appearance and personal hygiene. Be practical.

Pisces  
Feb 19 - March 20

You are too liable to jump to conclusions and they are likely to be wrong. Something you did not have high hopes about will turn out much better than expected. Take a little more care about your appearance and personal hygiene. Be practical.



## Crime

# Poverty, racism drive immigrants to crime

## Swedes lose patience with foreigners

STOCKHOLM, (Reuters): Poverty and racial prejudice in Sweden may be pushing immigrants towards crime.

For some who arrive on Swedish shores, the hope of joining a wealthy, liberal society fades into a feeling of rejection.

Authorities say this sense of alienation, coupled with *poorer* living conditions and higher unemployment, could be why the newcomers commit twice as many crimes per head as native Swedes.

Immigrants make up only five per cent of Sweden's 8.47 million population, but account for 10 per cent of crime, according to official figures. Foreigners waiting for residence permits and visitors from abroad are responsible for another five per cent.

Analysis of the crime figures has sparked a sometimes strident debate over the influx of refugees seeking asylum and eventual residence, many of them from the

Middle East.

Jerzy Sarnecki, a criminologist at the Swedish Crime Prevention Council, said the figures published by Statistics Sweden, the official statistics bureau, were broadly in line with his own observations.

"Against the background of findings in the United States and Australia, I think the cause may lie in the relationship between foreigners and Swedes," Sarnecki told Reuters.

"The existence of racism and prejudice against certain groups prevents them from feeling any solidarity with the society. I think we need stronger legislation against racism," he added.

Sweden's ombudsman for discrimination, Peter Nobel, said immigrants were no more prone to criminality than anybody else, but their socio-economic condition was significant.

"Racism can play a role, as can living conditions and psychological problems arising from harassment and persecution," he told the *Svenska Dagbladet* newspaper.

At a recent, televised public meeting in Kimstad, a village of 2,000 in southeastern Sweden, one resident explained why he opposed plans to house 200 refugees there.

"The mild winters are probably caused by the dark-skinned immigrants who are used to a warmer climate," he said. Residents of Kimstad distanced themselves from that remark, but newspapers and television gleefully seized on it.

The village is sharply divided over immigration, with many inhabitants saying the proposed refugee settlement would be too big to absorb. Racist slogans and signs demanding to "keep Sweden Swedish" have appeared on walls.

Swedish media have compared Kimstad to the small southern town of Sjöbo which voted in a local 1988 referendum against accepting any immigrants at all.

"Those who want to come here should have a house and job first," Kimstad resident Jan Tuff was quoted by the daily *Dagens Nyheter* as saying.

"We Swedes are a laughing stock abroad. It's too easy to come here and live off welfare," he said.

An Iraqi man who beat his Swedish wife was imprisoned in February by an appeal court, which overruled an earlier more lenient judgement based on consideration for the defendant's cultural background.

In another case, women's groups criticised a male judge who warned Swedish girls to make allowances for immigrants' views on sex and marriage.



Guns 'n' Roses' Izzy, Duff, Rose, Axl, Slash and Steven

## Guns 'n' Roses

# On top – but for how long?

### By Mohammed Elsheikh

SINCE late 1987, Guns 'n' Roses have been storming up both the US and the UK charts with singles like *Sweet Child O' Mine*, *Welcome to the Jungle*, *Paradise City*, *Nightride* and *Patience* and they have also reached the top of the album charts with their two albums *Appetite for Destruction* and *G'N'R Lies* to become one of the world's number one rock bands. But just who are Guns 'n' Roses?

Guns 'n' Roses got together in 1985 in Los Angeles. They formed after leaving their former bands: L.A. Guns and Road Crew. Axl and Izzy were friends ever since they were in school as well as being members of the former, while Slash, Steve and Duff were members of Road Crew.

Their first live experience together was in 1985. The Hell Tour '85. While they were on their way to their first date in Seattle, their car broke down so they had to hitch-hike, it took two and a half days! "We were all standing at the side of the road dressed in our stage clothes," said Duff, "five guys in striped tight pants and boots out in the middle of Oregon. When we finally got there we were wasted. It was our first gig and we sucked real bad – it was hilarious..."

They finally got their first record deal with a top "hard rock" label Geffen Records in late 1986, they invented a rehearsal studio from a garage and suitably named it "The Hell House". It had no bathroom, shower or kitchen and they stole pieces of lumber from a nearby building site to make a loft that allowed three to sleep at a time. Izzy used to sleep in a tiny space between the couch and the wall and he would sometimes stay there for days!

In the summer of 1988 they played at The Donington Rock Festival where Axl greeted the crowd by saying "Have a good day and don't kill yourself."

Unfortunately, two members of the crowd were crushed to death whilst slam dancing during Guns 'n' Roses performance, and ever since, the annual festival has been cancelled.

So that is the story of Guns 'n' Roses but who are the members of this great rock group?

W. Axl Rose, singer, 26.

Born in Lafayette, Indiana, Axl's real name is Bill Bailey – Bailey being his stepfather's surname who was a bit of a no-goer. His real father's name was Rose so he changed it to that at the age of 17. The name "Axl" comes from a group he was in. "W-

stands for William.

Axl suffers from a mental disorder called "manic-depressive schizophrenia" which means he is prone to "violent mood swings" and has to take a mood drug called Lithium frequently to keep him balanced.

He was an intelligent child at school who always got "A's". He has been thrown in jail over twenty times but claims guilty only five times – of "public consumption". A psychiatrist who saw him when he was in jail once, for three months, said he has an "exceptionally high I.Q. and his behaviour is evident of psychosis."

Slash, lead guitarist, 23.

Slash, really named Saul Hudson, was born in Stoke-on-Trent. His father was an album sleeves designer and his mother a clothes designer. Sadly, his parents split up when he was very young, and as a result, he lived with his father in his grandparents' house, England until he was 11.

In 1976, they emigrated to southern California where he experienced a lot of bad times. "I had total freedom all the time. I used not to come home for weeks..."

When he was in high school, he made friends with Steve who encouraged him to buy his first guitar – a plantain with one string on it which he picked up in a garage sale. When asked why he chose to play the guitar and not bass, he said "I decided the guitar was more interesting because it had more strings on it."

Weird you may call him, Slash has three pet snakes: Pandora – an eight foot python, another python and a boa constrictor.

Steve Adler, drummer, 24.

Steve who lives with his girlfriend Cheryl and his pup dog Benson, is often referred to as the boring one in Guns 'n' Roses. He was thrown out of eight different schools before high school because of "unruly behaviour". Steve began to bang on pots and pans before he took drumming seriously. Although he does not drive, he likes motorcycles, hockey, partying and rock 'n' roll!

Izzy Stradlin, Lead guitarist, 26.

Izzy, whose real name is Jeff Isabelle, was born in Indiana. His friendship with Axl goes way back when they were very young and remembers Axl as "a serious lunatic when I met him. He was just really bent on fighting and destroying things. Somebody's look at him wrong and and he'd like just start a fight but then he could turn around and be the nicest."

## Dismissal techniques

### Never fire an employee on a Friday

LONDON, (UPI): "Never fire anyone on a Friday, and try not to be curt, obnoxious, hard-boiled or efficient or you could turn the 'unsuspecting corporate employee into a living corpse," a career expert says.

Derek Edwards, a career consultant who has helped relocate about 3,000 ousted executives, and who is the author of a study on Dismissal Techniques, said few managers have the skills required to break the bad news.

His report advises not to dismiss an employee on their birthday, on a personal anniversary, and most importantly, never on Friday.

"The sacking should not fall on a Friday because it saves the ex-employee from moping over the weekend, and it gives the employer more time to prepare for the family," he said.

"Be brief and allow time for the respond while keeping con-

trol of the interview," said Edwards. "All of this does not imply being hardboiled, curt, insensitive, angry, or even obnoxiously efficient."

Edwards warned that failure to obey these guidelines can cause unnecessary trauma for the employee, and create a "ticking bomb" within the company if the managers delay informing the person.

"This can turn the unsuspecting corporate employee into a living corpse, shunned by colleagues, and becoming more and more anxious," he said. "Procrastination is the thief of time, but also of the individual's self confidence and future job prospects."

And Edwards said employers should not feel remorseful about the experience, which he believes has a brighter side.

Dismissal techniques

## Dismissal techniques

### Never fire an employee on a Friday



## Radiation monitor

A lightweight, pocket-sized radiation monitor for detecting alpha, beta and gamma radiation is now being marketed for use in schools and is available from Harwell Laboratory, near Oxford. Seen in use left, Radcount is simple to operate, with an end-window probe. It was developed as part of a programme funded by the UK Department of Energy to promote a greater understanding of ionising radiation by young people. The Radcount package for schools includes the counter and probe, detailed instructions for users and teachers, and a handbook of graded experiments for pupils at various levels up to university entrance.

Trial: Under police escort, Molineux is led to New York's Central Criminal Court on the first day of his trial.

Happy days: Four years before his death, Molineux strolls in a New York street with his wife.

# Unsolved mystery Most puzzling poisonous tale

By Carlton Steeart

IN turn-of-the-century New York it would have been hard to find an establishment more staid and respectable than the Knickerbocker Athletic Club, whose most distinguished star was the smiling, debonair Roland Burnham Molineux, committee member and reigning horizontal bar champion.

To many the personable Molineux was the perfect model of the ideal American hero. And that's what made it all the more shocking when, on November 14, 1899, he stood in the dock of New York's Central Criminal Court charged with murder by poisoning.

Had he deliberately administered cyanide to a Mrs Katherine J. Adams or had his real intent been to slay her nephew Harry Cornish? Or both?

Cornish was none other than the Sports Director of the Knickerbocker. Furthermore, it was known that Molineux and Cornish did not get on.

The story constituted one of the most tantalisingly enigmatic homicides in American criminal history and was certainly one of the most puzzling poison cases ever.

At one point, Molineux was asked: "You claim to be entirely and absolutely innocent of any crime?"

The reply from the dock was jaunty. Molineux saw no reason for fear. *In a firm, clear, voice* he replied: "Entirely and absolutely innocent."

But Assistant District Attorney James W. Osborne intended to prove otherwise. And it was certainly a highly bizarre story he had for the jury.

Harry Cornish had been a very puzzled man the previous Christmas Eve. His mail, received at the Knickerbocker Club, had included a personally addressed cardboard box of the kind usually used by only the most exclusive jewellers.

Cornish had unwrapped the surrounding manila paper to reveal at one end a silver toothpick holder, and at the other, what appeared to be a small bottle of bromoseltzer, a mild form of medicine for headaches.

Who had sent so bizarre a present and, above all, why?

Impatiently, Cornish dismissed the riddle from his mind and prepared to throw away the manila wrapper.

But he kept it, thinking it might be possible to trace the person who had written his name and address on the wrapper.

Cornish endured the inevitable taunts from colleagues who said it was undoubtedly an anonymous gift from a girlfriend.

The same view was taken by Cornish's aunt, Mrs Adams, and her daughter, Mrs Rogers, with whom Cornish, a divorcee, lived on West 84th Street. Two days later, bored with the mystery, Cornish presented the bottle and toothpick holder to the aunt, shrugging: "You might as well have them. They are no good to me."

Mrs Adams accepted graciously and, at the first sign of a headache, decided to take a dose of the bromoseltzer. Her comment was: "My! How bitter it is."

Cornish agreed and downed what remained in the glass. The sequel was horrifying.

Mrs Adams crumpled to the floor. A white-faced Cornish intertested: "She went down like six foot of chain."

A hastily summoned doctor found the woman ashened face, her breathing heavy. Shortly afterwards she died – but not before the doctor had detected the distinctive odour of bitter almonds. An an autopsy revealed death

from cyanide poisoning.



Poison: Roland Molineux, who was charged with murder by poisoning.



Accused: The face of debonair Molineux

from cyanide poisoning.

As for Cornish, he had been more fortunate. A violent bout of vomiting almost certainly saved his life.

Scarcely surprisingly, the bottle was found to contain a lethal amount of cyanide. More significantly, perhaps, the bottle was not of the conventional type used for bromoseltzer. A label had been removed from a genuine bottle and carefully pasted on to the vessel whose contents killed Mrs Adams.

The police turned their attention to the Knickerbocker Club and soon learnt that there had been a dispute between Cornish and Molineux over the running of the club.

But it seemed a trivial motive for murder.

Then the police turned up at a jewellery store in Newark, New Jersey, where an assistant had sold a bottle to a man seeking a container for bromoseltzer intended for a lady's dressing table. A clerk in a drugstore also recalled selling a man two bottles of bromoseltzer and two small bottles of bromo-caffiene.

The purchaser was revealed as red-haired which caught the imagination, not just of the New York police, but of the press, who had also taken up the chase.

A wigmaker near the drugstore recalled selling a red wig to a man around December 21.

Identification from the press photograph was emphatic – the purchaser was Molineux...

A \$50 reward was offered by the New York Journal for information leading to the arrest of the killer.

Two New Yorkers in the business of renting out private mail boxes for clients came forward.

One of the client had given the name of H. Cornish, while the other claimed to be a man calling himself H.C. Barnet. Both the renters of the boxes stated that their client was Molineux.

The name of Cornish was intriguing enough but the police also learnt that there had actually been a member of the Knickerbocker named Henry C. Barnet who had received a powder also containing cyanide of Mercury through the post.

The defence lawyer stated: "We believe that

the prosecution had failed to establish the charge made against this defendant and that no conviction can or should be made upon the evidence presented and we rest the case."

Nevertheless, the jury found Molineux guilty of murder in the first degree and he was removed to Sing Sing jail to await the hangman.

Molineux's lawyers were galvanised, eventually managing to get the verdict set aside on appeal.

In an entirely fresh trial, Molineux hit back. He denied ever sending the package to Cornish. Furthermore, a witness came forward to testify that he and Molineux had been together at the time the prosecution alleged the package had been sent.

Fresh sets of handwriting experts were summoned. Their only point of agreement was to disagree. Molineux, after two years under threat of the gallows, was acquitted.

Unanswered questions have haunted students of crime ever since.

Was the guilty man really Cornish? Was it true, as it was rumoured, that he had developed a passion for his niece, Mrs Rogers, and was prepared to kill his aunt who stood in his way? Had he swallowed the poison deliberately as a blind? Has Molineux and Cornish arranged all the crime within themselves?

And was there any significance in the fact that Molineux had eventually married an old flame of Barnet's?

After his acquittal, Molineux basked for a while in notoriety. He wrote books and

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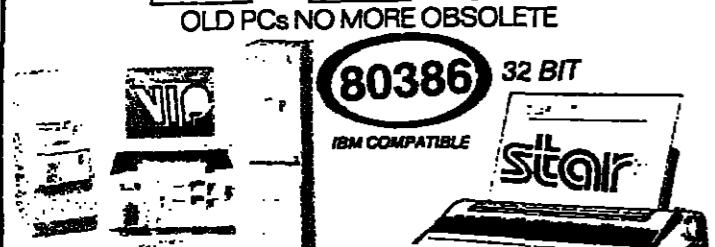
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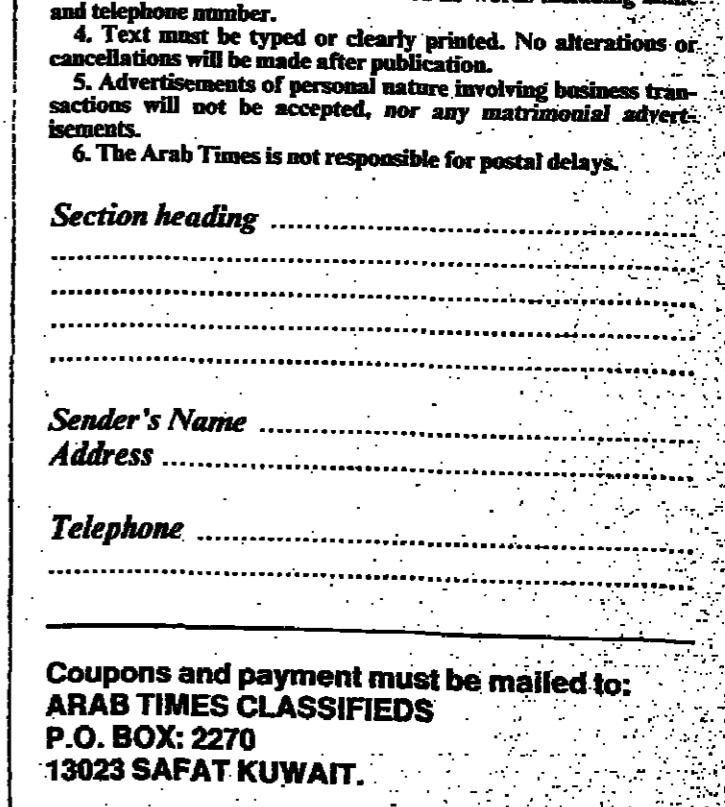
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## Van Rensburg struggles past Zivojinovic

ORLANDO, Fla., April 3. (Reuters): Third-seed Christo van Rensburg struggled with Slobodan Zivojinovic and two rain delays before winning his first round match 7-6 (7-2) 3-6 6-3 yesterday at the \$225,000 Orlando Classic men's tennis tournament.

The 31st-ranked Van Rensburg was not in peak form. But the 27-year-old South African, who lives in the United States, was able to overcome the hard-

serving Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia.

"We both knew it was a big match," Van Rensburg said. "He's good enough to be seeded in the top four here, but he hasn't been playing well the last few months. A guy with his experience could've won the whole tournament."

After breaking even by taking the second set, the 109th-ranked Zivojinovic, who ranked as high as 19th in October 1987, could not close out Van Rens-

burg.

The first rain delay was 15 minutes and came with Zivojinovic serving at 4-5, 40-15 in the first set. The second one hour and 40-minute delay came in the third set with Zivojinovic serving, 1-4, 15-all.

Fifth-seed Glenn Layendecker easily rolled over wildcard Jared Palmer 6-3, 6-1. The 52nd-ranked Layendecker played solid tennis, never letting the 261st-ranked Palmer, just coming back after knee

surgery in February, into the match.

"Today, he never got into it," Layendecker said. "I was able to capitalise early. He didn't look healthy."

Eighth-seed Ramesh Krishnan also advanced to the second round with a 6-7 (2-7) 6-2 7-5 over Derrick Rostagno.

The 74th-ranked Krishnan was down a match point in the ninth game of the third set before he rallied to take the

## England to bar Johnson from meets

LONDON, April 3. (AP): Ben Johnson will be barred from Grand Prix and other invitational track meets in England once his two-year suspension for steroid use ends in September, officials said yesterday.

The Amateur Athletic Association, which governs the sport in England, said the ban would apply to any athlete found guilty of drug use by national or international federations.

"They could participate in England only if chosen for a national team in an event such as the Olympics or Commonwealth Games, or European or World Track Championships," the association said.

The statement reaffirmed a longstanding policy, the association said. It had no effect on meets in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland but Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, said the British Amateur Athletics Board was likely to follow the same policy.

Johnson tested positive for steroids at the 1988 Olympics and was stripped of the gold medal in the 100 metres.

He subsequently told a Canadian inquiry that he began using performance-enhancing drugs in 1981. That confessions led to his 9.83-second world record in the 100 in 1987 being erased by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

The IAAF suspended Johnson for two years in September 1988. He is back in training and scheduled to regain his international eligibility this fall.

## Call Collect may not run in steeplechase

LONDON, April 3. (Reuters): Call Collect, one of the top fanciers for Saturday's Grand National Steeplechase horse race at Aintree, may not run.

A winner at the Cheltenham three-day festival meeting last month, Call Collect had been backed down to 8-1 in the 40-runner field but trainer John Parkes is praying for rain.

Doubts over Call Collect have led to more support for Brown Windsor, who is now 7-1 clear favourite.

The eight-year-old also won at Cheltenham last month and has never fallen in 11 outings over fences. The prevailing good ground should be in his favour.

Other leading fanciers on Saturday include top weighed The Thinker, who finished third to Little Polvor last year, andable companion Durham Edison, second in 1988 to Rhyme n' Reason.

Following an outcry last year when two horses had to be destroyed after falling at the infamous Becher's Brook, the obstacle has been modified.

## Golden Bear on the prowl again

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 3. (Reuters): The world's top golfers gathered yesterday for the 1990 Masters' championship aware that the "Golden Bear" was on the prowl again and hungry to feast on one more victory.

Jack Nicklaus, who has won a record six Masters titles, served up an impressive display of golf on Sunday in winning a senior title at his first attempt and immediately focused his attention on the Masters which begins on Thursday.

Nicklaus, who turned 50 in January, shot a four-under-par 68 to win the tradition tournament in Scottsdale, Arizona, by four strokes from his longtime rival, Gary Player of South Africa.

After his seemingly effortless victory, Nicklaus could hardly contain his eagerness to return to the Augusta National Golf Club, the permanent home of the Masters, where the picturesque course is eminently suited to his game.

"If I'm going to win on the regular Tour, the Masters will be the easiest to win," said Nicklaus, who collected his sixth Masters green jacket in 1986 with a spectacular final round of 65 to

## Argentina stun W. Germany

### Davis Cup holders toppled

BUENOS AIRES, April 3. (Reuters): Argentina's Alberto Mancini held his nerve after an overnight stoppage to beat Uwe Steeb and put holders West Germany out of the Davis Cup tennis competition yesterday.

Mancini's 7-6 6-3 6-4 victory in the deciding singles gave Argentina a 3-2 win over the West Germans in their world group quarterfinal.

Mancini, who was carried from the court by cheering fans after his win, needed only 24 minutes to finish off Steeb after play resumed yesterday and book his team a trip to Australia for the

semifinals in September.

The match had been suspended in fading light on Sunday evening, at a time previously agreed by both teams, with Argentina leading by two sets to one and the third set level at 3-3.

Steeb, who had beaten top Argentine Martin Jaite in his first singles rubber, was left ruing his words that West Germany, champions for the last two years, could win again even without US Open and Wimbledon champion Boris Becker.

Becker dropped out of the Davis Cup this year, saying he wanted to concentrate on trying

to take the world number one spot.

Steeb, ranked two places above Mancini in the world at 14, seemed yesterday to be in better shape than on Sunday, when he was cowed by the Argentine's powerful groundstrokes during the two hours they played.

But Mancini came back from 0-40 in the ninth game to go 5-4 ahead and blasted his way through the 10th game to dismiss the West German with a winning volley.

Argentina, who have only once reached the Cup final when they lost to the United States in

1981, had levelled the quarterfinal at 2-2 on Sunday when Jaite beat 62nd-ranked Michael Stich 4-6 4-6 1-6 6-3 in a four-hour, see-saw match.

Mancini won Argentina's first point on Friday when he beat 83rd-ranked Jens Woehrmann 7-5 4-6 7-6 7-6 and West Germany won both their points on Saturday with Steeb defeating Jaite 6-3 6-7 6-4 6-3 and Eric Jelen and Stich overcoming Javier Frana and Gustavo Luza 6-2 7-6 6-2 in the doubles.

Besides missing Becker, the West Germans had to contend with injuries and ailments during their stay in Argentina.

Non-playing captain Nikki Pilic on Friday had to field Woehrmann, who had never played a Davis Cup match, after Stich suffered an upset stomach. On Saturday, Pilic switched the two again after a pulled leg muscle kept Woehrmann out of the reverse singles.

Pilic masked his disappointment at the loss and told reporters: "Even without Boris Becker we have a team with a lot of potential."

He said Steeb was unfortunate in having to play his first singles a day late, on Saturday, because of rain on Friday.

"Argentina's great advantage was that Mancini had a day's break between his singles while Steeb had to play on Saturday and for that reason he lacked sparkle," Pilic said.

Stich said his concentration had suffered after watching Stich lose so narrowly to Jaite in the first of the reverse singles.

Stich himself said: "If I had gone 4-2 ahead against Martin Jaite in the fifth set, I would probably have won. But it was not to be. Next time I'll do better."

But West German Tennis Federation president said the team had nothing to be ashamed of.

"We can leave Buenos Aires with heads held high," he said.

## Romanians still revere Comaneci

BUCHAREST, Romania, April 3. (AP): You can come back, Nadia. All is forgiven.

The people in your homeland understand why you left. They've heard the stories about your caving through America with a married man and wonder why you've snubbed Bela Karolyi, who made you a star before he, too, departed for the West.

But that's OK. To your compatriots, you -- Nadia Comaneci, gymnastics star of the 1976 Olympics and perhaps the most famous Romanian alive -- remain a beloved pixie whose life was ruined by the Ceausescu family.

"Maybe the person was not great as a human, but as a sports symbol she was really great," said Radu Gliga, a Bucharest engineer. "For sure they used her for political gain, but we didn't care about this. We loved her and she gave us so much happiness."

The people who used Comaneci were the family and followers of Nicolae Ceausescu, who ruled Romania as a personal fiefdom for more than 20 years until the revolution last December, just after Comaneci defected.

Comaneci reportedly had a long relationship with Nicu Ceausescu, the dictator's son, although its exact nature is unclear. Comaneci has denied having anything to do with Nicu Ceausescu, though her mother has said he tormented Comaneci physically and emotionally during a five-year

relationship.

Many Romanians believe there was some kind of long-term affair between the two.

"People always loved Nadia. She is a great kid that suffered because of the golden epoch, because she was a champion and beautiful," said Petru Ioan, a gymnastics coach who worked with Karolyi and knew Comaneci as a little girl in Onesti in Eastern Romania.

"Someone should have fallen in love with her. The Little Prince (Nicolae Ceausescu) caused her all the problems," he said. "She was forced by him. I couldn't tell if she loved him or not."

Ioan's wife, Christina, also a gymnastics coach, said Nicu Ceausescu -- known as a playboy -- would not leave Comaneci alone.

"There was a time when she wanted to give up everything," Christina Ioan said. "She wished a family, she wanted to give up everything." Christina Ioan said. "She wished a family, she wanted to get married, but she was trapped by Nicu."

Comaneci soared into superstardom as a 14-year-old waif when she became the first gymnast to score a perfect 10 at the Montreal Olympics. She won three gold medals, a silver and a bronze at those Games, part of a total of 21 gold medals she eventually won in Olympic and World Championship competition.

## Cherkasov, Bruguera win

ESTORIL, Portugal, April 3. (AP): Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union upset seventh-seeded Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina yesterday to join Spain's Sergio Bruguera and Yugoslavia's Goran Prpic in the second round of the \$76,000 ATP men's Estoril Open.

Cherkasov, the 30th seed in the world, beat Radu Gliga, a Bucharest engineer. "For sure they used her for political gain, but we didn't care about this. We loved her and she gave us so much happiness."

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Milan face Bayern, Marseille meet Benfica

# Top European marksmen clash

LONDON, April 3. (Reuters): French sharp-shooter Jean-Pierre Papin aims to outgun Swedish ace Mats Magnusson when two of Europe's most prolific marksmen clash in a European Cup soccer semifinal showdown between Marseille and Benfica on Wednesday.

But while Papin duels with Magnusson in Marseille, Dutch star Marco van Basten can show he is still the classic striker in Europe when he leads the attack of Italian holders AC Milan in the other semifinal first leg against West German champions Bayern Munich.

Papin plundered his third hat-trick of the season last Saturday to hoist his tally of League goals to 27 as Marseille romped to a 4-1 win over Lille.

Magnusson was also firmly on target on Saturday, striking twice in the second half to give Benfica a 2-0 home win over Chaves in the Portuguese First Division and raise his personal account for the season to 28.

Van Basten has netted 19 times in the Italian First Division. The trio are top scorers in their respective Leagues.

Predatory Papin supplied the lion's share of the goals which earned Marseille the French League and Cup double last year and has scored on five of his six European outings this season.

He noticed his 100th goal for Marseille in the 3-1 quarterfinal second leg win over CFKA Sofia two weeks ago which took the club's ambitious millionaire



Van Basten: leads Milan attack

and scored himself against both CFKA and Lille.

Benfica were the semifinal opponents both Papin and Waddle wanted.

Benfica, like Marseille, are second in their domestic League

but they have not been at their best and could be without influential Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern, who was out of action last weekend because of a leg injury.

Benfica have to look back a long way — to 1961 and 1962 — for their European Cup triumphs, though they reached the final in 1988 when they were defeated in a penalty shootout by PSV Eindhoven of the Netherlands.

High-flying PSV fell to Bayern in these quarterfinals and the West Germans, enjoying an unfamiliar underdog role, will hope to upset the odds when they take on AC Milan in the San Siro stadium.

AC Milan will be without gifted winger Roberto Donadoni, effectively barred from the rest of the competition when he was suspended for three matches by the European Football Union (UEFA) for violence in the quarterfinal second leg against Belgium's Mechelen.

Midfielder Carlo Ancelotti, who plays alongside Donadoni for Italy, was injured in the same match and will be another absentee from a side deprived by injury of the exceptional talents of Dutchman Ruud Gullit all season.

Gullit's compatriot Van Basten, European Footballer of the Year for the past two seasons, guided Milan into the semifinals by breaking the scoreless deadlock against Mechelen with an extra-time goal which led to a

hard-earned 2-0 win.

Van Basten and utility defender Frank Rijkaard, withheld by Milan from a Dutch international match last week, will play key roles for the title-holders who have lost their aura of invincibility in recent weeks.

Roland Grahame and Roland Wohlfarth, scorers of the goals which gave Bayern an important first-leg edge over PSV in the quarterfinals, are suspended for the Milan clash after collecting one booking apiece too many.

But Bayern expect to include Scottish striker Alan McInally, who took a knock in last Saturday's 3-1 win over VFB Stuttgart which maintained the Munich club's three-point lead in the Bundesliga.

Two of the six semifinal first-leg ties in three European club competitions were kicking off this evening.

French representatives Monaco were entertaining Sampdoria of Italy, last year's beaten finalists, in the European Cup Winner's Cup and West Germans Werder Bremen, conquerors of holders Napoli in the third round, were at home to Italy's Fiorentina in the UEFA Cup.

Tomorrow, Belgium's Anderlecht, who ousted holders Barcelona from the Cup Winner's Cup, renew their ambitions at home to Dinamo Bucharest, while Juventus take on Cologne in another Italian-West German confrontation in the UEFA Cup.

## Gulf sailors invited to Abu Dhabi

SAILORS from Kuwait have been sent invitations to take part in the Abu Dhabi sailing association's seventh annual international open sailing regatta, being held on May 3 and 4.

The event which is supported by Dunhill, is expected to attract crews from around the region, including Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman and Qatar as well as from the various clubs around the UAE.

The Abu Dhabi sailing association is made up of four clubs in the capital. The Abu Dhabi sailing club, whose origins go back over twenty years, supports fleets one for kestrels the other for lasers. The adeats, actively promote catamaran sailing, whilst the boatwalkers compete regularly in windsurfing competitions around the emirates.

The fourth member is the Abu Dhabi cruiser association, which was originally formed in 1982. The Hilton sports and leisure centre, which will host the event, has been long time supporters of cruiser racing, and have sponsored a series of races during the summer for some years. During the recent Dunhill international cruiser classic held over 178 nautical miles, around the southern Gulf, Abu Dhabi's Fran and Andy Leonard took third place in division 1 and third overall.

The regatta will follow a similar format to last year's event, with seven main categories of sailing events being held on the Thursday and Friday.

## Witt and Boitano prepare for tour

PORTRLAND, Maine, April 3. (AP): Figure skaters Katarina Witt and Brian Boitano, rehearsing for their upcoming 34-city international tour, say there's a special chemistry in the ease with which they perform together on the ice.

Boitano said they anticipate each other's movements and share similar feelings about how the partner's role fits in with his or her own.

The way we conceive of each part is the same," Boitano says. "So if I say, 'I really feel like I'm doing this,' she'll go, 'I feel the same way.' And when I look at her I can see that she feels the same way.

"In some ways, we are the same," Witt adds. "We always want to be good, to be perfect. We put a lot of heart into the skating."

Boitano, of the United States, and Witt, of East Germany, began two weeks of rehearsals here yesterday in preparation for the show in which the reigning Olympic gold medalists will skate together for the first time before a live audience.

The show, "Brian Boitano and Katarina Witt skating," opens in Portland on April 15 and will continue through June 12, ending in Philadelphia. A tour of Europe and Japan is scheduled for September and October.

Boitano said the show, which also features a dozen other Olympic and world champion skaters, has "A Street Look" and is a far cry from the glitzy Las Vegas-style extravaganzas that many audiences have come to associate with the genre.

"It's new. It's a contemporary ice show. It's what's happening now," he said.

In their first rehearsal, Boitano, Witt and choreographers Sandra Bezic and Michael Siebert worked on "Isolation Hotel," a number in which the two skaters portray lovers who seek emotional therapy for their bumpy relationship.

Each is locked in a hotel room, unaware that the other is in the room next door. Skating to the haunting ballad, their movements reflect how their thoughts are focussed exclusively on each other.

"I think that's probably our favorite piece," Boitano said.

The skaters, who won gold medals in the 1988 Olympics in Calgary, say the challenge in performing at ice shows is different from that of international competition.



Witt: put a lot of heart into skating

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Cup hell

Cairo, April 3. (UPI): Egyptian soccer manager Mahmoud El Gohary says his World Cup final qualifying team is not going on a picnic in Italy but to "hell itself." "Fans think that we are going to Italy to crush other teams in the World Cup. This is totally wrong for a team not going there on a picnic but facing itself in my opinion," El Gohary said in an interview in yesterday's Al Ahram newspaper.

### Cycling champion

PARIS, April 3. (UPI): World road race cycling champion Greg Lemond, who won his second Tour de France last year, has returned to the United States, where he plans to race in the Tour de Trump May 6-13.

### Brazilian player

MILAN, Italy, April 3. (AP): Lazio of Rome, the first Italian major League club to open the transfer campaign for the next season, reportedly signed Brazilian midfielder Vaido following the acquisition of West German forward Karl Heinz Riedle from Werder Bremen.

### English soccer

LONDON, April 3. (Reuters): Results of English League Fourth Division soccer matches played yesterday.

Cambridge 5 Scarborough 0

### Milan appeal

BERNE, April 3. (Reuters): European Cup holders AC Milan have appealed against a three-match ban on Roberto Donadoni which effectively rules the international winger out of the rest of their title defense.

Romanian manager

PISA, Italy, April 3. (AP): Romanian manager Mirela Lucea has signed with Pisa and will direct the Italian club next season, club officials announced yesterday.

### Woman jockey

LONDON, April 3. (Reuters): Woman jockey Gae Armitage will miss Saturday's Aintree Grand National after suffering a suspected broken leg. Armitage was to have partnered outsider Monanore, who finished third in the National in 1988.

### Baur triumphs

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil 3. (AP): West German Patrick Baur upset eighth-seeded Horacio de La Pena of Argentina in opening day play yesterday at the \$250,000 Banespa Open tennis tournament.

### Ferry waits

ROME, April 3. (AP): Danny Ferry said yesterday he's waiting until the end of the Italian regular season before making up his mind on whether to return to the United States to play for the Cleveland Cavaliers in the NBA next season.

### Padres sold

SAN DIEGO, April 3. (AP): An investment group headed by Hollywood producer Tom Werner signed a letter of intent yesterday to purchase the San Diego Padres baseball team, club owner Joan Kroc said. Terms of the transaction were not released, but the club's price tag was reported to be \$75 million.

### Fiji squad

SYDNEY, Australia, April 3. (AP): Former Australian national rugby union coach Alan Jones is coaching the Fiji national team on a temporary basis and may take the job permanently.

## Brazil players receive ultimatum

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 3. (Reuters): The Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) has warned players selected for the World Cup they must be present on April 23 when training begins or risk missing the competition.

The ultimatum was made even though many of Brazil's foreign-based players have club commitments after the deadline.

Jorge Salgado, a CBF director, told Reuters yesterday he was confident all 22 players selected by coach Sebastiao Lazaroni would meet the demand.

"We are working with the hypothesis that all the players will be present on the 23rd," he said.

"If any player is not present the committee will meet and decide what to do. If he has a good justification for his absence, he will be maintained in the squad. If not, he will be dropped."

Salgado said all the players

were warned before last Wednesday's 1-0 defeat by England. "Some said they would have a certain amount of difficulty but at the end it was almost certain that we would have them all," he said.

The foreign based players likely to be selected are Jorginho (Bayer Leverkusen), Mozer (Marseille), Romario (PSV Eindhoven), Valdo, Ricardo, Aldair (all Benfica), Bruno (FC Porto), Careca, Alemao (both Napoli), Julio Cesar (Montpellier) and Dunga (Fiorentina).

Leverkusen are second in the West German League and have six games after April 23. Napoli are second in the Italian League, which also finishes after the deadline, while Benfica could be involved in the final of the European Cup.

"If they are present on the 23rd, Lazaroni will then decide on the official deadline, and begin training camp on April 23 at the mountain resort of Teresopolis, 90

kilometres from Rio, to give him a full six weeks with his squad.

● Lazaroni said yesterday he was in contact with Fiorentina, but denied making a deal to take charge of the Italian first Division side next season.

"There are only contacts with

Fiorentina, there is nothing firm," Lazaroni said in this central Italian city where Brazil will stay from May 20-29 during their build-up to the World Cup finals.

"I'm Brazil's coach up to the World Cup, then we'll see. I like Italy and its football," added Lazaroni, who is touring Italy to finalise their World Cup arrangements.

Brazil face Scotland, Sweden and Costa Rica in Turin in Group C of the World Cup finals starting on June 8.

Fiorentina sacked coach Bruno Giorgi last week, replacing him with 1982 World Cup player Francesco Graziani.

RESULTS of the Barclay Cigarette Bridge Tournament (8th week) held on Sunday:

RESULTS of the Hubara & Centre Bridge Club game played on Saturday:

N/S

1. Rima & Fouad Farah  
2. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah  
3. Dona Materny & Adel Bayoumi

E/W

1. K. T. Simon S Salman Ali  
2. J. Gajjar & Chandrashekhar  
3. Nawa & Milham Ashkar

RESULTS of the Regency Ladies Bridge Club game held last Wednesday morning:

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murtiwaite  
2. Margaret Maynard & Jane Jackson  
3. Nida Khalaf & Subhendu Oskay

E/W

1. Mohammed Merchant & Carsten Buus  
2. Beatrice Pereira & Aburey D'Souza  
3. John Burke & Fazal Hussain

RESULTS of the Millennial Ladies Bridge Club game played on Monday:

1. Nabil Akel & Lollo Murtiwaite  
2. Rima Ayyad & Ghofran Mikhayil  
3. Nida Khalaf & Subhendu Oskay

## Record entries

ZURICH, April 3. (Reuters): A record 120 entries have already been received for the 1992 Olympic soccer tournament in Barcelona with the final count still to come, the International Football Federation (Fifa) said yesterday.

Fifa spokesman Guido Tognini said the deadline for entries had been extended by one week until April 7 and any applications received before then would be accepted.

The Seoul Olympics in 1988 had the previous highest number of 110 entries.

The draw for the 1992 competition, scheduled from July 25 to August 1, will take place in Rome next July 6.

Qualifying matches start in August this year and must be completed by May 15, 1992.

## UNLV overwhelm Duke for NCAA title



UNLV players celebrate. (Reuter wirephoto)



Duke's Robert (left) and Alaa Abdelnaby restrain UNLV's Moses scurry. (Reuter wirephoto)



Duke's Robert (left) and Alaa Abdelnaby restrain UNLV's Moses scurry. (Reuter wirephoto)

They did it with style they have made famous — tenacious man-to-man defense — as they rattled Duke, a team known for its savvy and poise.

Duke was making its eighth appearance in the final four of the NCAA season-ending tournament. The Blue Devils went home again without a trophy, extending the longest streak of national semifinal futility.

UNLV broke the tournament record for steals in a game with 16, eclipsing the mark set by Duke in the 1986 championship game and matched by Oklahoma in the 1988 title game.

Until last night, the largest margin of victory in a championship game was 23 points, when UCLA beat North Carolina 78-55 in 1968.

For Tarkianian, the man who sits on the bench looking as though it pains him to watch his team win, getting the trophy capped a long battle with the NCAA, which ordered the school to sus-

pend him for violations. He went to court for an injunction and the case eventually reached the Supreme Court, which ruled in favor of the NCAA.